

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS
IN IRELAND,
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,
1865;
WITH APPENDIX.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



DUBLIN:
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER THOM, 87 & 88, ABBEY-STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
1866.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
GENERAL REPORT OF DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS, ...	5
Accommodation, ...	5
Number of Convicts, ...	5
Disposal of Convicts, ...	6
MOUNTJOY MALE CONVICT PRISON:	
Directors' Report, ...	9
Governor's Report, ...	10
Statistics, ...	11
Medical Officer's Report, ...	14
Protestant Chaplain's Report, ...	23
Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report, ...	24
Presbyterian Chaplain's Report, ...	27
Head Schoolmaster's Report, ...	28
SPRING ISLAND PRISON:	
Directors' Report, ...	32
Governor's Report, ...	33
Statistics, ...	34
Medical Superintendent's Report, ...	37
Protestant Chaplain's Report, ...	39
Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report, ...	40
Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report, ...	41
Presbyterian Chaplain's Report, ...	41
Medical Officer's Report (Fort Carlisle), ...	42
Protestant Chaplain's Report (Fort Carlisle), ...	42
Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report (Fort Carlisle), ...	43
Head Schoolmaster's Report, ...	43
Assistant Schoolmasters' Reports, ...	47
MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON:	
Directors' Report, ...	50
Superintendent's Report, ...	51
Statistics, ...	52
Medical Officer's Report, ...	54
Protestant Chaplain's Report, ...	56
Roman Catholic Chaplains' Reports, ...	56
Presbyterian Chaplain's Report, ...	57
Schoolmistress's Report, ...	57

SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS :

	<i>Page</i>
Directors' Report, ...	59
Protestant Chaplain's Report, ...	60
Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report, ...	60
Presbyterian Chaplain's Report, ...	61
Medical Officer's Report, ...	62
Superintendent's Report, ...	64
Statistics, ...	65
Lecturer's Report, ...	68
Protestant Chaplain's Report (Lusk Prison), ...	70
Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report (Lusk Prison), ...	71
Lecturer's Report (Lusk Prison), ...	71

RELEASED CONVICTS, DUBLIN DISTRICT :

Inspector's Report, ...	74
-------------------------------	----

APPENDIX :

Return made by the Inspector of the District of the City and County of Dublin, of the Number of Licence-holders Registered by the Inspector of the said District, under the provisions of the Penal Servitude Act, 1864, from the date at which the Act came into operation, until the 25th day of July, 1865, inclusive, being for the period of one year, ...	76
Return showing the Proportion of Sick and Deaths to the Number of Prisoners in the Irish Convict Prisons, for the years 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, ...	77
Return showing the Proportion of Sick and Deaths to the Number of Prisoners in the Irish Convict Prisons, for the years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865, ...	78

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

IN IRELAND,

UNDER 17 & 18 VIC., CAP. 76.

TO THE RIGHT HON. G. P. FORTESCUE, M.P.,
CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND.

Government Prisons' Office, Dublin Castle,
March, 1866.

SIR,

In accordance with the provisions of the Act 17 & 18 Vic., cap. 76, we beg to submit the Annual Report on the state of the Convict Prisons in Ireland for 1865.

Accommodation.

The accommodation for convicts in the Government Prisons on the 1st January, 1866, may be estimated as amounting to *2,350.

GOVERNMENT PRISONS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number in custody on 1st January, 1865, . . .	1,158	479	1,637
Accommodation on 1st January, 1866, . . .	*1,800	550	*2,350

COUNTY AND CITY GAOLS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number in custody on 1st January, 1866, . . .	8	2	10

Gross Total of Convicts in Ireland, 1,647.

NUMBER OF CONVICTS SENTENCED TO PENAL SERVITUDE DURING THE YEAR 1865.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
3 years, ...	1	—	1
5 "	96	41	137
6 "	4	—	4
7 "	77	37	114
8 "	1	—	1
10 "	17	9	26
12 "	—	1	1
14 "	2	—	2
15 "	1	1	2
20 "	3	—	3
Life, ...	8	—	8
Gross Total sentenced in 1865, . . .	210	89	†299

* Not including the closed prison at Philipstown, which has accommodation for 750 males; but including Fort Carlisle, where additional accommodation is provided for 200 males.

† One of these is a military convict.

DISPOSAL OF CONVICTS.

Discharged unconditionally, on completion of sentence, &c., . . .	161
Released on Orders of Licence, ...	309
Total, ...	410

Subjoined is a table similar to the one given in previous Annual Reports, showing the number of Convicts respectively "In Custody," &c., "Convicted," and "Discharged," since the year 1834, inclusive:—

In custody in Government Prisons, January 1st.	Year.	Convicted.	No. Discharged.
*3833	1834	710	658
3437	1835	518	820
3209	1836	380	1107
2614	1837	426	910
2277	1838	358	946
1773	1839	322	805
1631	1840	331	524
1492	1841	308	561
1314	1842	302	517
1575	1843	311	326
1708	1844	407	391
1776	1845	†299	410
1637	1846	—	—

Beyond the fact that the number of convictions to penal servitude has continued to diminish in even a greater degree than in previous years since 1862, there is little to call for special observation in the statistics of the Convict Prisons for the year now reported on.

The diminution referred to, as will be seen by the above table, has been remarkably great, amounting to nearly 50 per cent. below the total number of convictions in 1862 (299† in 1863 as compared with 592 in the special year alluded to), and about 33 per cent. less than the average number of convictions in each of the eleven preceding years mentioned in the table. The diminution in the number of females convicted is particularly striking, only 89 having been sentenced to penal servitude in 1863, as compared with 154 in the year previous and with 167 in 1862.

In the Report for the year 1864 written in 1865, the Directors observed, "whether, in the present year, when the two shorter sentences" (viz., three and four years) "have entirely disappeared, the proportion of the five years' sentences will have to the whole number of sentences awarded, the same proportion as was before borne thereto by the three, four, and five years' sentences taken together, will be an interesting point to observe." The experience of the past year now enables them to make this comparison. In the year 1863, before the new Penal Servitude Act abolishing the

* In addition to this number there were 345 convicts under detention in the county prisons, and several hundred in Bermuda and Gibraltar, who were subsequently discharged in Ireland.

† One of these is a military convict.

‡ Of this number 16 were political prisoners.

three and four years' sentences came into operation, 353 sentences out of a total of 511 were for five years and under, or 69 per cent. of the whole; and in 1865 the five years' sentences comprised 137 out of 299, being only 46 per cent. Taking this fact into consideration along with the following, viz., that while in 1863 the six and seven years' penal servitude sentences amounted to only 18 per cent. of the whole, they rose in 1865 to 39 per cent., it may be inferred that the new Act is really working much more stringently against offenders than was the case with the law previously in operation.

The Directors are enabled to report that the system of classification now for so many years established, which leads up from the commencing stage of separate confinement to the final stage of the intermediate prisons, continues to work satisfactorily. The number of convicts attaining the privileges of the intermediate prisons and consequent remission of imprisonment and discharge on licence, has comprised the usual proportion of from 70 to 75 per cent. of the whole number discharged. The only change that has been considered necessary in the arrangements in connexion with these intermediate prisons, has been the shortening of the period that the prisoners with longer sentences are to be permitted to pass in that stage of confinement; six months being the period allotted for prisoners under the shortest sentences of five years' penal servitude, and one month additional being allowed for each additional year of sentence. It is considered that these periods will afford sufficient time for the training and preparation for discharge on licence which the intermediate prisons have been established to provide, and will also allow of the prisoners being discharged with a sufficient amount of gratuity to assist in their support, and to furnish them with a supply of tools, &c., for their work, till able to establish themselves in some settled course of employment. This diminution of the time during which the prisoners under longer sentences are to be allowed the advantages of intermediate prisons, has been considered also to be in accordance with the more stringent bearing of the late Penal Servitude Act, as lengthening the periods during which the greater criminals will be subjected to the more penal stages of imprisonment. It will here be proper to observe that convicts under life sentences, or whose crimes have been of a specially grave character, cannot by any degree of prison conduct attain to the advantages of the intermediate prisons, and that reconvicted prisoners who have had those advantages during their former sentences, are also invariably excluded.

There has been no case of combined insubordination among the prisoners, nor has it been found necessary during the year to resort to corporal punishment, except in three instances.

The revocations of licence have but very slightly increased beyond the number in the previous year, and there has been a slight reduction in the number of reconvictions. There has been nothing to call for special remark in any of these cases.

With regard to the Refuges for discharged female convicts at Golden-bridge and Heytesbury-street, the Directors desire to ex-

press their satisfaction with those establishments, by repeating with the fullest confirmation the observations which they felt justified in making in their last Annual Report, viz :—

"The discharge on licence of the female convicts eligible for that advantage into the Refuges at Golden-bridge and Heytesbury-street, continues to be of the greatest benefit to the Convict Service, and to the women themselves. The period in their sentences when this advantage can be gained is anxiously looked forward to by the female convicts in the prison, the only exception being in the cases of those of idle disposition, to whom the degree of industry enforced in these excellent establishments is of course distasteful. It cannot be denied that it is owing to the good influence of these establishments, following the habits of submission to order and discipline enforced in a prison, and to the means which they afford of providing for the employment of the women when they attain their freedom, that very many more cases of reconvictions are not to be found in the Female Convict Prison. The Refuges themselves under their able managers are models of good order and cheerful industry."

In conclusion the Directors have to add that the supervision of the discharged convicts by Mr. Organ, in the Dublin District, has been as zealously and effectively carried on as in previous years, and that no complaint has ever come to the Directors' knowledge from any discharged convict against the constabulary, who have conducted the supervision of the discharged convicts in the country districts.

The usual observations on matters referring to each particular prison will be found appended hereto, with the Reports of the Governors and other superior officers.*

I. S. WHITTY,
PATRICK JOSEPH MURRAY, } *Directors.*

* Mountjoy Male Prison, ...	Page
Spike Island, ...	9
Mountjoy Female Prison, ...	32
Smithfield and Lusk Intermediate Prisons, ...	50
	59

MOUNTJOY MALE CONVICT PRISON.

MOUNTJOY
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.*Directors'*
Report.

Generally, the conduct of the officers has been, during the year, satisfactory.

The Chaplains and the Head Schoolmaster report very favourably upon the religious and moral conduct of the convicts, and upon their educational progress.

The discipline of the prison remains unaltered, and the convicts are employed as in former years.

The annexed report of the Governor states the produce of the convicts' labour.

The health of the prisoners is more favourably reported on by the Medical Officer than in the previous year, during which ten deaths occurred. There have been only three deaths in the prison within the present year.

The Directors have to regret that, for reasons which the Medical Officer has entered into at length in his annual report, he considered it necessary to make the exclusion of meat from the diet of the convicts for the first four months after reception (which had been the practice in the prison for some years, unless in individual cases), the exception, instead of the rule, during the year now reported on, and to give the ordinary diet to the prisoners generally, from the commencement of their imprisonment. The Directors understand, however, that this change has not been adopted as a permanent one, and, apart from the question of health connected with it, for which the Medical Officer is responsible, they consider the exclusion of meat generally from the prison dietary during the first four months after reception, to be very desirable.

The number of prisoners removed to Spike Island as not being fit, owing to special mental or bodily state, for a course of separate confinement, has been twenty-one, about the same number as in the previous year. The reasons are given in detail in the Medical Officer's report.

The Commissioners of Public Works have maintained the buildings in good order and condition throughout the year, and no alterations or additions have been found necessary, save those arising out of the reception of political prisoners.

The expenses of the prison have been of the ordinary necessary class, with the exception of certain charges arising out of the arrangements made for the safe keeping of convicts sentenced for political offences.

The expenses are given under the several heads in the Appendix to the Governor's annexed report.

I. S. WHITTY,
PATRICK JOSEPH MURRAY, } *Directors.*

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.

Governor's
Report.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Government Prison,
March, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—In forwarding the statistical details of this prison for the year 1865, it again becomes my pleasing duty to report that the system adopted here with reference to the conduct and treatment of the prisoners has still continued to operate satisfactorily, and has been attended with favourable results.

During the past, as in the preceding years, every attention has been paid with regard to the religious and secular instruction, the sanitary condition, and discipline of the inmates. They were employed as usual—those recently convicted, and received here from the county and city gaols, to undergo the first stage of convict discipline, were occupied in picking oakum in their separate cells for the first three months, and afterwards engaged in learning the rudiments of shoemaking and tailoring also in their cells, until the lapse of eight months from the date of their reception, when all those who were never punished for any breach of the prison rules (which were carefully explained to them), were then removed to association at the Public Works in Spike Island, or, if qualified as shoemakers or tailors, transferred to the associated trades division at Mountjoy, in which division, located and employed in the workshops here since the abolition of Phillipstown Prison in March, 1863, there are many skilful tradesmen, and they have performed a considerable quantity of well executed work.

The conduct of the prisoners in general has been very good; and in proportion to the average daily number in custody, the punishments were few, and offences of a grave or aggravated nature, comparatively rare, and chiefly confined to a few individuals. No attempt at escape has been made during the year, and out of 185 prisoners removed to association, 136 of these passed only eight instead of nine months in separate imprisonment, owing to their merit, and as a reward for very satisfactory conduct whilst undergoing their first and important stage of probation.

The state of the prison building has been duly attended to by the Board of Public Works, and besides the ordinary repairs, a very considerable number of new structures were executed on special requisitions, made according to your directions, and which were considered necessary as additional security in consequence of the circumstances already adverted to.

In upholding the system, and carrying out its details, I have received the usual co-operation of the principal officers of each department of the establishment; and the subordinate officers in general have discharged their duties in a satisfactory manner.

I certify that the rules laid down for the government of the prison have been complied with during the past year, except in such cases as have been reported to, or brought under the notice of a Director, or the Visiting Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

R. D. SPREAD, Governor.

To the Directors of Government Prisons,
&c., &c., &c.

CLASSIFIED STATEMENT of the NUMBER of OFFENCES committed by the Prisoners during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Offence.	No.	Offence.	No.	MOUNTJOY MALE CONVICT PRISON.
Assaults on officers, - - -	5	Feigned attempt at suicide, - - -	10	General's Report.
" convicts, - - -	6	Willfully damaging prison property, -	12	
Communicating and other minor offences, - - -	127	Malingering, - - -	1	
Disobedience and insolence, - - -	48	Threatening language, - - -	10	
Disorderly conduct, - - -	72	Idleness, - - -	1	
Insolence, - - -	11	Fighting, - - -	2	
Insubordination, - - -	3	Total, - - -	308	

CLASSIFICATION of CRIMES for which these Prisoners have been sentenced who were received during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Crimes.	No.	Crimes.	No.
Arson, - - -	3	Larceny and felony, - - -	10
" in Workhouse, - - -	1	Malevolent assault, - - -	1
Assault, - - -	1	Manslaughter, - - -	4
" and robbery, - - -	3	Military offences, - - -	7
Appearing armed by night, - - -	1	Murder, - - -	1
Bigamy, - - -	3	Obtaining money under false pre- tences, - - -	1
Breaking and entering dwelling, -	1	Pig stealing, - - -	2
Burglary, - - -	17	Passing base coin, - - -	2
" and larceny, - - -	1	Piracy, - - -	2
" and robbery, - - -	11	Rape, - - -	5
Cattle stealing, - - -	8	Robbery, - - -	3
Cutting and wounding, - - -	2	Receiving stolen goods, - - -	2
Coining, - - -	2	Rebellion, - - -	1
Felony, - - -	8	Sleep stealing, - - -	13
Felonious assault, - - -	2	Shooting at with intent, - - -	3
Forgery, - - -	3	Stealing in dwelling-house, - - -	2
Grievous assault, - - -	1	Stealing post letters, - - -	2
Housbreaking, - - -	6	Treason felony, - - -	10
" and felony, - - -	2	Uttering base coin, - - -	1
" and robbery, - - -	2	Writing threatening letters, - - -	2
Horse stealing, - - -	2	Total, - - -	247
Larceny, - - -	55		
" from the person, - - -	13		
" and previous conviction, - - -	25		

NUMBER of PRISONERS admitted in association during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Taken.	No.	Taken.	No.
Tailors, from separation at Mountjoy Prison, - - -	8	Removed Tailors, - - -	18
Tailors, from Spike Island Prison, -	0	" Shoemakers, - - -	13
Shoemakers, from separation at Mountjoy Prison, - - -	11	" Cleaner, - - -	1
Shoemakers, from Spike Island Prison, -	6	Remaining on 31st December, 1865, -	76
Cleaner, from Spike Island Prison, -	1		
Remaining on 31st December, 1865, -	73		
Total, - - -	106	Total, - - -	106

RETURN of WORK performed in the Tailors' and Shoemakers' Department during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

		No.			No.
Men's Blucher boots made,	pairs,	126	Uniform belts made, - -	pairs,	60
" shoes made, - - -	"	1,125	Special work—Men's boots made,	"	134
Women's shoes made, - - -	"	555	" pegged or clamped,	"	1,654
Children's shoes - - -	"	49	" scrowed, - - -	"	177
Officers' slippers, men's, made,	"	68	" women's, - - -	"	13
" women's, - - -	"	67	Women's boots made, - - -	"	14
Fricse slippers made, - - -	"	124	Men's Blucher boots repaired,	"	64
Canvas slippers made, - - -	"	60	" shoes - - -	"	675

RETURN of Work performed in the Tailors' and Shoemakers' Department during the year ended 31st December, 1865—continued.

PERSON.	No.	No.	
Women's shoes repaired, pairs,	290	Flannel shirts made, - - -	356
Officers' clippers, men's, repaired, "	15	Calico coats " - - -	20
" women's, " " "	7	" overalls " - - -	30
Uniform top coats made, - - -	64	" badges " - - -	868
" frock " " - - -	120	Hospital trousers " - - -	63
" trousers " " - - -	141	" vests " - - -	1
" caps " " - - -	147	" caps " - - -	20
" tweed coats made, - - -	17	Aprons made " - - -	26
" " vests " - - -	18	Bosoms " - - -	10
" " trousers made, - - -	18	Uniform top coats repaired, - - -	28
" boat jackets " - - -	6	" frock coats " - - -	32
" cap covers, " - - -	101	" trousers " - - -	70
Monkey jackets made, - - -	115	" caps " - - -	10
Cord trousers made, - - -	124	" vests " - - -	1
Barragon vests " - - -	146	Frieze jackets " - - -	235
Tweed caps " - - -	20	" trousers " - - -	604
Frieze jackets " - - -	1,095	" vests " - - -	111
" vests " - - -	1,240	" caps " - - -	68
" trousers " - - -	1,532	Flannel drawers " - - -	390
" caps " - - -	1,335	" shirts " - - -	118
" braces, pairs made, - - -	148	Shirts " - - -	140
Flannel drawers " - - -	615	Sheets " - - -	140

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of MOUNTJOY MALE PRISON for the year ended 31st December, 1865.

HEADS OF SERVICE.	£	s.	d.
Salaries, - - - - -	3,659	8	4
Rations for officers, and allowances in lieu thereof, - - -	22	19	3
Uniforms for officers and servants, - - - - -	27	10	6
Victualling prisoners, - - - - -	1,367	9	2
Clothing, &c., for prisoners, - - - - -	70	2	4
Bedding for prisoners, - - - - -	8	5	2
Medicines, surgical instruments, &c., - - - - -	40	16	1
Medical comforts (extras for the sick), - - - - -	46	17	6
Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation, - - - - -	6	13	2
Gratuities to convicts, &c., - - - - -	64	19	10
Furniture and fittings, - - - - -	24	2	2
Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c., - - - - -	4	0	11
Fuel and light, - - - - -	443	16	1
Buildings and repairs, - - - - -	321	7	0
Washing and repairs of linen, - - - - -	35	19	1
Soap, scouring and cleaning articles, - - - - -	12	0	6
Brushes, brooms, and mops, - - - - -	23	2	1
Funeral expenses, inquests, &c., - - - - -	0	19	0
Various small disbursements, - - - - -	86	7	9
Rents, rates, and taxes, - - - - -	40	0	0
Expense of the conveyance of convicts, - - - - -	0	11	6
Total Payments, - - - - -	46,307	7	5

STATEMENT of the NUMBER of CONVICTS committed and disposed of, from 1st January to 31st December, 1865.

Received from—	Removed to—		
County and City Gaols, - - -	209	Convict Depôts, - - -	216
Convict Depôts, - - -	28	Died, - - -	2
Head Police Officer (ticket of licence revoked), - - -	10	Discharged, - - -	23
Do., having escaped from prison, -	1	Dundrum Lunatic Asylum, -	1
Military Prisoners, - - -	1	Richmond Bridewell, - - -	1
		County Gaols, - - -	3
		Committed Suicide, - - -	1
		Remaining in custody on the 31st December, 1865, - - -	247
Total, - - -	247		

TABLE showing the reported PREVIOUS IMPRISONMENT of the Prisoners received during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

		MOUNTJOY MALE CONVICT PRISON.	
Not reported to have been in prison before, - - - - -	71	Eight times, - - - - -	5
Once, - - - - -	38	Nine " - - - - -	3
Twice, - - - - -	29	Ten " - - - - -	1
Three times, - - - - -	28	Ten and under fifteen times, - - - - -	6
Four " - - - - -	18	Fifteen times and over, - - - - -	8
Five " - - - - -	16	Antecedents not known, - - - - -	7
Six " - - - - -	12		
Seven " - - - - -	5	Total, - - - - -	247

AGES of PRISONERS on CONVICTION, received during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Under fifteen years of age, - - - - -		Forty, and under fifty, - - - - -	13
Fifteen, and under twenty, - - - - -	33	Fifty, and under sixty, - - - - -	7
Twenty, and under twenty-five, - - - - -	77	Sixty, and over, - - - - -	6
Twenty-five, and under thirty, - - - - -	45		
Thirty, and under forty, - - - - -	66	Total, - - - - -	247

SENTENCES of the PRISONERS committed to this Prison during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Ten years' transportation, - - - - -	3	Ten years' penal servitude, - - - - -	19
Three years' penal servitude, - - - - -	7	Fourteen " " " " - - - - -	3
Four " " " " - - - - -	3	Fifteen " " " " - - - - -	3
Five " " " " - - - - -	96	Twenty " " " " - - - - -	3
Six " " " " - - - - -	9	Life, - - - - -	8
Seven " " " " - - - - -	89		
Eight " " " " - - - - -	2	Total, - - - - -	247

Married, 79.

Single, 168.

Protestants, 27.

Roman Catholics, 215.

Presbyterians, 5.

RETURN showing the VALUE of the PRODUCTIVE LABOUR of the PRISONERS, and the number Employed during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

New Employed.	Daily average No. employed 365 days.	Estimated value of the work performed.
Tailors, - - - - -	469.46	£ s. d. 404 16 3
Shoemakers, - - - - -	400.27	339 14 2
Smiths, - - - - -	1.	22 14 6
Gardeners and labouring work, - - - - -	1.53	23 13 5
Timmen, - - - - -	.03	0 13 7
Net-makers, - - - - -	.05	0 13 7
Fatigue work, cleaning prison, cooking, and picking osium, - - - - -	68.	294 16 0
Daily average effective prisoners employed as above, -	201.32	—
Daily average non-effectives in hospital, unable to work and sick in cells, - - - - -	19.75	—
Total daily average, -	221.07	—
Total, - - - - -	—	1,147 1 6

* Of this number thirty-six were in separation at tailoring work, after three months from date of reception at Mountjoy Prison.

† Of this number twenty-five were in separation at shoemaking work, after three months from date of reception at Mountjoy Prison.

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Prison (Male),
January, 1866.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor of laying before you a report of the condition, during the year 1865, of that department of the Mountjoy (Male) Government Prison which it is my duty to superintend.

I am happy to be able to inform you that the sanitary state of this prison has been satisfactory, and that during this period no outbreak of contagious or epidemic disease has taken place.

Three deaths took place among the prisoners in the course of the year, of these, two died in hospital—one of the disease known as "Bright's disease of the kidney," the other of tubercular disease of the lungs, accompanied by pleuritis with effusion, and subsequently pneumo-thorax. The third was dead when conveyed from his cell to hospital, having committed suicide.

Twenty-one prisoners were recommended for removal from this prison on medical grounds during the past year; of these, two were considered unfit to be submitted to the cellular discipline of this prison, as there was reason to believe them to suffer from epilepsy; one on account of being blind.* The remainder either on account of marked bodily infirmity or a condition of disturbed mental health which made it appear injudicious to detain them here.

The following tables show the comparative state of the health department of this prison since it was first opened, as well as the monthly state of the hospital, the diseases of the prisoners, &c., during the year 1865:—

TABLE showing the Number of Prisoners in the Prison, the Number of those admitted to Hospital, and the Number of Deaths each Year since 1850.

Year.	Total No. of Convicts in the Prison during each year.	Number admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
1850	962	253	2
1851	1,075	355	7
1852	971	406	5
1853	1,178	456	10
1854	1,086	503	9
1855	1,052	344	9
1856	837	292	3
1857	758	295	3
1858	661	221	2
1859	600	210	1
1860	499	183	1
1861	471	153	3
1862	688	193	5
1863	715	144	5
1864	599	193	10
1865	449	174	3

HOSPITAL RETURN for the year 1865.

Number of Prisoners in custody in this Prison, 1st January, 1865,	203	} 449
Number of Prisoners received in this Prison during the year,	247	
Patients in Hospital, 1st January, 1865,	19	} 123
Admitted during the year,	106	
Special attendants,	8	} 184
Discharged,	180	
Removed to Spike Island,	21	} 3
Deaths,	3	
Remaining in Hospital, 1st January, 1866,	9	

* This case was recommended for removal, but not afterwards removed to Spike Island.

DEATHS during the year 1865.

Register No.	Initials of Names.	Age.	Received in Hospital.	Date of Death.	Disease.
6771	M.B.	24	31st January.	13th April.	Bright's disease of kidneys.
6867	W.H.	27	8th June.	8th June.	Suicide by hanging.*
6196	M.M.	22	17th November.	17th December.	Pleuritis with effusion, pulmonary phthisis.

MONITOR
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.
Medical
Officer's
Report.

MONTHLY STATE OF HOSPITAL for the year 1865.

Admitted, 1865.	Under treatment in Hospital.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining.
Jan. 1st, in Hospital, - 19}	40	23	-	17
" admitted, - 21}				
February, - - - - -	33	16	-	15
March, - - - - -	33	17	-	16
April, - - - - -	30	19	1	10
May, - - - - -	27	12	-	15
June, - - - - -	26	13	1	12
July, - - - - -	25	17	-	8
August, - - - - -	22	12	-	10
September, - - - - -	20	10	-	13
October, - - - - -	27	19	-	8
November, - - - - -	21	12	-	9
December,† - - - - -	19	9	1	9 in Hosp. 1st Jan., 1866.

DISEASES of PRISONERS admitted to HOSPITAL during the year 1865.

Asthma, - - - 1	Hæmorrhoids, - - - 2	Stricture, - - - 5
Bronchitis, - - - 1	Herpes Zoster, - - - 1	Sore throat, - - - 2
Chest disease, - - - 1	Inflammation of knee and bursa patellar, - 7	Syphilis, - - - 8
Debility, - - - 13	Jaundice, - - - 2	Suicidal cases, - - - 4
Diarrhoea, - - - 15	Ophthalmia, - - - 2	Sciatica, - - - 2
Dyspepsia, - - - 7	Observation, for, - 21	Tumour over eye, - 1
Disease of shoulder, - 1	Phthisis, - - - 1	Ulcer of leg, - - - 3
Erysipelas, - - - 1	Pericostitis, - - - 1	Whitlow, - - - 4
Epileptic, - - - 2	Rheumatism, - - - 4	Special attendants, - 8
Enlarged tonsils, - 2	Scrofulous glands, - 5	
Feverish attacks, - 36		174

Total number of individuals‡ admitted to hospital during the year, 120
 § { " " prisoners prescribed for in the prison, - - - 2,818
 " Individual prisoners that had change of diet, - - - 19
 " " that had extra exercise, - - - 45

* Verdict, "Temporary insanity."

† Owing to the political (Fenian) prisoners committed to this prison, at this time, it was deemed advisable, on account of the strict watch necessary, to admit to hospital only those who urgently required hospital treatment. Hence the small number this month.

‡ Several individuals have been admitted more than once to hospital. This statement refers to individuals admitted.

§ Cases of a trifling character, not requiring to be admitted to hospital for treatment.

MONMOUTH
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.
—
Medical
Officer's
Report.

Prisoners removed during the year 1865 on Medical Grounds.

Regis- try No.	Initials of Name.	Observations on case, as made in letter recommending removal.
6918	P. D.,	Recommended for removal, being subject to epileptic attacks.
6890	J. J.,	For some time past in a delicate state of health.
6899	J. M.,	A very strange, eccentric character; not fit, in my opinion, for the discipline of this prison.
8475	J. E.,	This prisoner lately made what appears to have been a deter- mined attempt at suicide. I recommend his removal rather to prevent the development of mental disease.
7023	T. M.,	Blind.
6941	D. M.,	A delicate old man, not suited to the cellular discipline.
6881	M. S.,	A delicate man, irritable and weak-minded, unfit any longer to undergo the cellular discipline.
8870	E. S.,	Whom I found yesterday in a state of great mental excite- ment, and who was found the night before preparing to make a suicidal attempt.
8899	P. W.,	A man whose sanity is very doubtful, and who is certainly unfit for the discipline of this prison.
6811	G. M.,	Suffering from phthisis.
6981	M. D.,	Of doubtful sanity.
6942	J. L.,	Under the influence of delusions, of doubtful sanity.
7029	M. G.,	Sent away from here on a former occasion as being epileptic.
6974	M. G.,	Since this prisoner's admission to hospital I am induced to believe that he has made his suicidal attempt under the in- fluence of temporary insanity. It would not, in my opinion, be safe again to submit him to cellular confinement.
7070	E. B.,	I recommend the removal of this prisoner, as he is evidently of weak mind.
6908	G. O.,	A weak-minded prisoner.
7097	T. K.,	A prisoner at a former period a certified lunatic.
6948	M. D.,	A delicate man, suffering in an extreme degree from spas- modic asthma.
6990	M. C.,	A confirmed invalid, suffering from chronic disease of the shoulder.
7017	J. P.,	Very excitable, and, on account of his mental condition, not fit for the cellular discipline of this prison.
7026	F. M.,	Sent away from this prison on a former occasion on medical grounds.

During the past year I visited regularly the prisoners under punish-
ment at the time of my usual visit to the prison. From the time of the
appointment of Mr. Ward as Resident Apothecary, up to the commence-
ment of last year, I had not done so. I commenced performing this duty
which, in consequence of a representation made by Dr. Banon and myself
to the late Chairman of the Board of Directors, had been assigned to the
Resident Apothecary, as I learned that it was your wish that it should be
done by the Medical Superintendent. Lest you may conceive that in not
doing this formerly, I had been guilty of any neglect of duty, I take the
liberty of stating what arrangement had been made at the time of Mr.
Ward's appointment. At that time the late Chairman of the Board of
Directors was good enough to ask the assistance of Dr. Banon and myself
in framing regulations for the guidance of the Resident Apothecary in the
discharge of his duties. Among these rules the following was drawn and
approved of, viz.:—"He shall attend to such instructions with regard to
prisoners under punishment as he may receive from the Medical Superin-
tendent."

These instructions were that the Resident Apothecary should visit the
prisoners under punishment every morning, ask each if he was well, and

report the name of every one who was ailing or who wished to see him to the Medical Superintendent, who should accordingly visit such prisoners.

MOUNTJOY
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

This arrangement was found to work well, and was only discontinued by me, as I believe it was by Dr. Banon, upon learning that you desired it to be so.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

At the close of the year 1864, some cases of scurvy made their appearance in this prison. In consequence I stated in my last report that "the occurrence of this disease, which had not hitherto appeared in this prison since I have been Medical Superintendent of it, was made the subject of special report, and such changes were suggested as regards diet, &c., as I thought proper to arrest the spread of the complaint."

As some misconception seems to have arisen on the subject of the changes which I then suggested, and since carried out, I shall be pardoned for entering at some length into this matter.

Let me observe, on the threshold, that I am not one of those persons who consider that a high scale of diet is necessary for convicts. I have not observed, as is urged by some, that the depressing influence of prison life requires to be counteracted by additional food. The object to be aimed at should be, in my opinion, the adoption of a scale of diet as economical as is compatible with the maintenance of health. The great majority of convicts do not feel the degradation of their position as criminals so as to be depressed by it. The few who do take it much to heart, or who long for liberty and home, so as to become desponding, irritable, nervous, sleepless, and out of health, never ask for more food, and could not digest it if they got it.

My predecessor, Mr. Rynd, took a different view of this question; I have before me a letter of his showing his disapproval of entailed diet even in the case of prisoners under punishment, and reference to his report for the year 1856, shows that the cases in which he gave *extra diet* to prisoners (that is additional food over and above the ordinary fixed diet of the prison) far exceeded what I have found necessary.

* In the year 1856, number of prisoners who had extra diet,	- 78
1863,	" " - 6
1864,	" " - 5
1865,	" " - -

During the year 1858, at the request of the Directors of that time, who coincided with me in thinking that some reduction might be made in the scale of dietary, I made a very careful series of observations, conducted, I may add, partly upon healthy prisoners and partly upon myself, which led to the approval and adoption of the following:—Two scales of diet were adopted for adult prisoners undergoing cellular discipline in this prison, one of these scales of diet (which to save confusion I shall indicate as diet A) was a little better than the other (diet B).†

In fact they were identical except in this, that in the one case (diet A) on the two days of the week on which soup is given, the proscribed allowance of meat was given along with the soup, while in the other (diet B) the same quantity of soup was given, the meat boiled in it being omitted. As a smaller amount of actual flesh meat was required, ox-heads were used to a considerable extent for making the soup.

* See Reports for these years.

† This diet was called "reception diet" in the prison, and I believe that this misapplied name has, in part, been the cause of misapprehension; as it has been supposed that all prisoners on reception here, as a matter of course, were to be placed upon it. But this never was the case, as the books prove. It is instructive, however, as showing how injudicious it is to use a name which involves a theory.

MONJOY
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

At a convenient time after the arrival of prisoners in this prison, I inspected each individual, and placed each on that one of the sanctioned scales of diet which I considered suited to his case. This was done by my marking the diet which I ordered for each prisoner opposite to his name in the book kept for this purpose. In my published report for 1859, it is stated that within a certain time 282 prisoners were received in this prison; of these 193 were placed on diet B, while in 89 instances I had reason to adopt the higher scale (diet A).

It is obvious, therefore, that at that time it was considered as part of my duty, as Medical Superintendent, to make use of one or the other of these two scales of diet, according as my medical knowledge indicated to me that one or the other was required.

I never doubted that it was my duty to do so. I did so from the time that these two scales (A and B) were first sanctioned, and did so with the full knowledge of the Directors. For, from my report, already referred to, it appears that about one-third of the prisoners arriving in this prison were placed on diet A, the remainder on diet B.

I have already said that towards the close of last year, some cases of scurvy appeared in this prison. Dreading an outbreak of this disease, such as occurred in the adjoining prison in the year 1862, when 100 cases of scurvy made their appearance,^c and fearing that such an occurrence would give good grounds of objection against further attempts at reduction of diet, I at once made a special report, of which the following is a copy:—

24th December, 1864.

^c Several cases of undoubted scurvy have made their appearance among the prisoners.

I have carefully sought for the cause of an appearance of a disease which I have never until now met with in this prison during the years I have been Medical Superintendent of it. I am unable to discover in the quantity or quality of the articles used as food any cause for this. No change whatever has been made within the present year as regards the diet of the prisoners, and from frequent inspections I find the milk, bread, &c., as good as has been at any time furnished for the use of the prisoners. The broth also contains the usual quantity of fresh succulent vegetables as has been given for years past. There has been no change of any kind made as regards the ventilation of the prison, or any other circumstance that I can make out which can be looked upon as the cause of a complaint from which the prisoners of this establishment have hitherto been free. In fact so far as hygienic arrangements are concerned, I can find no cause, and I can suggest no general remedy. But I find that of late the number of punishments have greatly increased, and I also find that three out of four cases of scurvy have been for a longer or shorter period under punishment with curtailed diet. It is not possible for me to tell beforehand that a prisoner under dietetic punishment will be made scurvy by it. I can only deal with the disease when it arises. But I can draw the attention of the Directors to what I believe to be the fact, that this disease is caused by frequent punishment, and hope that they will be induced to try to reduce the number of punishments which have of late so much increased. As a preventive measure, I also recommend that all prisoners shall get meat as they used formerly to do from the time of their arrival in this prison, and also that a larger quantity of vegetables be given in the broth.

ROBERT M'DONNELL, M.D.,

Medical Superintendent.

As I never received any reply to this, it only remained for me to adopt such means as I conceived lay within my own power for the arrest of this complaint. I accordingly had recourse to the higher of the two sanctioned scales of dietary. I ascertained that the bread, milk, soup, &c., was fresh and good, by inspecting the samples of food every day, and I caused a

^c Report of Medical Superintendent of Monajoy Female Prison, for Year 1862."

lime-juice mixture to be administered daily to prisoners on bread and water as punishment diet.

I have the satisfaction to report that no case of scurvy has occurred during the year 1855.

From the foregoing statement it would appear—

MONITOR
MALE
CORRECT
PRISON.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

- 1st. That the diet scales introduced in the year 1853 were adopted and sanctioned as the result of my observations, and on my recommendation.
- 2nd. That from the first introduction of these two scales of diet, I, as Medical Officer, made use of the one or the other, just as I believed the one or the other to be necessary for the maintenance of the health of the prisoners under my charge.
- 3rd. That last year, in consequence of a threatened outbreak of disease, I had recourse to the higher of these two scales more freely than I had found necessary in former years.
- 4th. That these facts had all been brought under the notice of the Directors in my reports.

Bearing in mind the foregoing statement, it will hardly be wondered at that it was with some surprise that in November last I received a letter from you attributing to "the watchful care of my predecessor," Mr. Rynd, the changes in diet which I was myself instrumental in effecting in 1853; and in a few days later a memorandum forwarded to me inquiring—"What rule of those for the guidance of the Medical Officer authorised or justified him, without the sanction of the Directors, in entirely altering the food, and thus changing an important phase of the system?"

If, gentlemen, after considering the explanation which I have now ventured to offer, you are still of opinion that I was not justified in acting as I have done, I shall be happy to learn what course I should follow under similar circumstances in future.

I would merely add that it is an error to suppose that I in any way altered the food, or changed any phase of the system, during the last twelve months. I merely made use of the existing and sanctioned scales of diet in such a way as (combined with other measures) to arrest an outbreak of disease. In doing so, I exercised a power which with your knowledge, and I had believed with your approval, I had exercised since the year 1853.

The subject of the punishment of prisoners, viewed in its medical aspect, is one to which I wish to direct attention. A large proportion of the diseases met with among convicts are various forms of scrofula; the great bulk of those who die in our convict prisons, as seen by the return of deaths, fall victims to maladies known as scrofulous.

So frequently, indeed, is scrofulous disease of one kind or another met with among the criminal class, that some persons think that some peculiar connexion exists between the criminal tendency and the scrofulous diathesis. I believe, however, that the connexion depends simply upon this: that amongst those from whom the majority of our criminals spring, physical and moral neglect go hand in hand.

Insufficient food, insufficient clothing, bad air, and so forth, co-exist with evil training in early life, and vicious associates. The seeds of scrofula and the seeds of vice are put in at the same time, but the growth of the one does not seem to be in any way dependent upon the other. It is certain, however, that scrofulous disease is the great scourge of the convict class, as met with in our civil prisons; and in considering, in a medical point of view, the advantages and disadvantages of various forms of punishment, it should be our chief endeavour to avoid such influences

MONTEZOT
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

as are known to be likely to develop any tendency in this direction. It is on this account that corporal punishment, within certain limits, especially for the young, but the same may be said for almost all classes, possesses advantages over all other modes of punishment—short and soon, once an ordinary whipping leaves behind no permanent ill-effects, and never impairs the general health. It is a matter to be regretted that of late years public opinion has set so strongly against corporal punishment. I can state, from repeated conversations with prisoners, that a severe birching would be considered a less severe punishment than bread and water diet in the penal cell for ten days or a fortnight, or than being simply placed in handcuffs for the same length of time; and I can confidently affirm that the punishment by bread and water diet is much more likely to impair the health.

The punishments which, in my opinion, are most likely to develop scrofulous, or other disease, are those depending on restricted exercise, curtailed diet, or insufficient clothing.

It is obviously objectionable that the Medical Officer should have to step in between an offender and a well-merited punishment. When he is taken off punishment by the order of the Medical Officer it gives the offender a kind of triumph; yet this has often to be done when a diet punishment extends over many days. Punishments, by curtailed diet, are not well suited either for the young or for persons advanced in life—it tells quickly on those who are still growing, and the elderly do not bear with immunity sudden changes in the quantity of their food. After some days of bread and water diet the pulse becomes quick; a slight degree of exercise accelerates the heart's action and quickens the respiration; the differences which normally exist in the rate of the pulse when lying, sitting, or standing, become much exaggerated; some days later a low degree of fever begins, with considerable thirst. Experienced offenders, however, do not drink, they merely dip the tongue in water. They do not allow themselves to drink water freely until the period of punishment is nearly up; then they take water copiously. This is possibly the reason that some seemed to have gained weight while on punishment—the quantity of water drunk diffused through the tissues, of course temporarily makes them heavier. I need not say, however, that this is not generally the case.

Handcuffs kept on for a longer or shorter period is a severe punishment; but when unaccompanied by lessened diet I have not observed that the general health suffers much.

The dark cell is now rarely or ever used, but formerly, when it was, and I had opportunities of judging of its effect, I certainly did not find that it produced the terrible effects attributed to it. Upon boisterous, passionate, and destructive characters it acted as a sedative, by placing them in circumstances in which their rage became impotent, and their tendency to destroy ineffectual.

The padded cell is not used for punishment purposes, being intended for cases either insane or supposed to be so.

I object, on medical grounds, to the punishment of prisoners by giving them insufficient clothing, as one not only likely to develop scrofulous disease but highly likely to give rise to acute disease also. Last winter, when an attempt was made to introduce this mode of punishment into this prison, I objected, as you are aware, to its introduction at that time. As the subject is one about which I feel very strongly, I conceive it to be my duty to speak frankly concerning it.

The circumstances were as follow:—On the 7th of January, 1865, when visiting the punishment cells, I found a prisoner in one of them looking very miserable. He was stooping forward with his hands thrust

between his legs, his extremities were cold, his features shrunken, he shivered, and his teeth chattered. He had the appearance of a man labouring under serious illness; indeed the leaden hue of his face and sunken eye looked like that of a patient struck with Asiatic cholera.

I inquired what ailed him; he said that he was cold, very cold; that no bed or bedding, except a single rug, had been allowed him during the night; that he had lain on the floor, with no other bed-clothes than a rug to cover him, and that he was cold into his very bones. I asked if it was so, and was informed that an order had come from the Directors' Office to the effect that prisoners under punishment were to be deprived of their beds and bedding (except the rug) during the first nights that they were undergoing punishment. I asked to see this order. About the time referred to the weather was exceedingly inclement. By looking at the Registrar-General's returns it will be seen that during the beginning of January, 1866, the cold was on some nights intense—several degrees below the freezing point.

The weight of the rug allowed to the prisoner I ascertained to be not more than four pounds. He had nothing but the floor to lie on, no bedstead, mattress, or pillow. Considering such a mode of punishment at that season of the year, as in the highest degree likely to give rise to mental disease in those submitted to it, I directed that in future the usual bedding should be given to the prisoner mentioned, and I remonstrated against the adoption of this mode of punishment in general.

I had received no intimation that the introduction of it was in contemplation, else I should have stated my reasons for regarding it as unsuited to the convicts of this prison before it had been put in force.

On the 10th of January a memorandum was forwarded to me from one of the members of your Board, stating that this mode of dealing with prisoners under punishment was followed at Spike Island Prison and in the army.

This I confess appeared to me to be rather an argument in favour of its discontinuance at Spike Island, than one for its adoption in this prison. I wrote in reply expressing strongly my disapproval of it. Feeling, however, that everything of this kind should be judged of by experience, as, after all, this is the true criterion whereby to test the fitness or unfitness of such a punishment, I went, by the permission of Mr. Tufnell, to visit the military prison at Arbour-hill and judge for myself of the effects. I found that in this prison, instead of being given a rug only with the floor to lie on, each prisoner under punishment during the cold weather is raised off the floor on a bedstead, and has a good blanket as well as a rug. Military prisoners having been at one time in their career selected as healthy recruits, are, it should also be remembered, a more robust class than the majority of convicts met with in civil prisons; even the mode of punishment adopted at Arbour-hill Prison I should not consider suitable for the inmates of this prison.

I hope, gentlemen, that you will pardon me for entering so fully into this subject. I regard it as a very important one, and beg leave to assure you that my observations are not dictated by any feelings of mankind good-nature or foolish philanthropy. I am as well aware as any man how necessary it is to have an iron hand in dealing with the convict classes, and that often firmness, severity, and sternness are the greatest humanity.

It is always with regret that I stand between a prisoner who has misconducted himself and the punishment which you think it right to award; but I think that the experience of the past proves that I have done so with benefit to the service and safety to those connected with it. I would allude to my statement concerning the health of one of those individuals

MENTAG
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

MEMORANDUM
MALL
CONVICT
PRISON.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

whose death is recorded in my present report (Register No. 6,195) upon whom it was in contemplation to inflict a flogging for a grievous offence.

But, gentlemen, apart altogether from the question as to the influence upon the health of the prisoners of one punishment or another, it is a matter to which I would next direct your attention. I have said already that on the 7th of January, when I found a prisoner labouring under the effects of cold, in consequence of his bedding not having been allowed to him, I had received no intimation that the introduction of such a mode of punishment was contemplated.

I would earnestly beg that in future you will be good enough to communicate to me beforehand any order so closely related as this to the department over which I preside. I would remind you that a coroner's inquest is liable to be held on the body of every prisoner who dies in this prison; that if it came before a jury in evidence that a convict died of acute bronchitis or pneumonia, or some such malady caused by his having been deprived of his bedding, I should be censured, and, I must confess, deservedly so, for having apparently sanctioned it. In justice to myself, therefore, gentlemen, I most earnestly solicit you to communicate to me in future such changes before they are actually carried into effect.

Four cases of attempted suicide were admitted to hospital during the past year. In one of these the attempt had been successful, and the man was quite dead when conveyed to hospital. As appeared in evidence at the coroner's inquest, the man was under punishment in one of the refractory cells at the time of his death, and was in handcuffs.

I had visited him the day before his death and had conversed with him. At this time he gave no sign of being of unsound mind. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "temporary insanity."

The case is one of considerable interest in a medico-legal point of view. The unfortunate man had hanged himself with a portion of his own shirt twisted up and attached to a small ventilator fixed in the wall of the cell. This ventilator is within five feet two inches of the floor, so that he must have had determination enough to keep his feet off the ground until he became insensible. When bodies have been found suspended so near to the ground as this a question has been raised as to whether they have not been suspended after death by some other person, in order to give the appearance of suicide when life had been actually taken by another hand than their own; and it has been argued that no one could have determination enough to destroy himself while safety lay within his reach by simply standing up. The case now alluded to proves that suicides may accomplish their purpose of self-destruction when their feet reach the ground.

J. E., Register No. 6,475—Attempted to hang himself in punishment cell on May 5th, between three and four o'clock in the morning. His case was a serious one, and it was some hours before re-action was so re-established as to place him out of danger.

This prisoner was subsequently recommended for removal from this prison on medical grounds.

M. G., Register No. 6,974, attempted to hang himself in his cell on August 2nd.

This one was, I may say, the worst case of suspended animation I have ever seen which underwent recovery. When I arrived (having been instantly sent for), I found that the Resident Apothecary had applied external stimulants and used artificial respiration. At this time the face was livid; extremities cold, the body bedewed with clammy moisture, bloody foam frothing from the mouth, eyes protruding and bloodshot, pulse barely perceptible, slow and intermittent. He was profoundly insensible

—respiration was very laboured and irregular. After two hours of vigorous treatment—magnesian, sinapisms, chaffing of limbs, application of warmth, &c., I found the pulse improving and heat becoming restored. On returning in the afternoon I found him still profoundly insensible, although it had been possible to give him some small quantity of brandy and water. Re-action was not established, his pulse was very feeble, and he appeared to be sinking. Later my colleague, Dr. Tyrrell, of Jervis-street Hospital, saw him with me in consultation. He was still insensible, breathing laboriously, and foaming from the mouth. We considered, however, that re-action was sufficiently re-established to justify bleeding from the arm. While I was drawing the blood consciousness returned. He spoke, and from this time on gradually recovered.

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.

Medical
Officer's
Report

This prisoner was subsequently recommended for removal from the prison on medical grounds.

W. M., Register No. 6,896, attempted to hang himself in his cell on October 25th. His case was less serious than any of the foregoing. This prisoner has since gone to Spike Island Prison.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

ROBERT M'DONNELL, M.D., F.R.S.

To the Directors of Irish Convict Prisons.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Mountjoy (Male) Government Prison.
13th January, 1866.

Protestant
Chaplain's
Report

GENTLEMEN,—In reporting to you my experience of the year 1865, I can only repeat what I stated in my report for the preceding year, that "the duties of a Chaplain are of that monotonous character which affords scarcely any materials for a lengthened report." I can only say, that in my experience as a parochial clergyman in Dublin, for thirty-seven years, I have never been engaged in a more interesting field of labour; and never have I seen so large a proportion of sinners "turned from Satan unto God." This result I can clearly trace to the effect of solitary confinement, when men have been thereby to "*think*." They are then accessible by instrumentalities to which before they were utter strangers. They can be "*individualized*," and dealt with according to the idiosyncrasy of each; and I will ever maintain that the *individualization* of prisoners is absolutely essential to their reformation. The routine of divine services, week-day lecture, and frequent visitation of each prisoner in his cell, has been carried on as in all preceding years. The attention of the men is most gratifying; and the number of communicants amounts to fully two-thirds of the whole.

You are aware that lately new arrangements became necessary by which our plan of worship was changed; but the Inspector so kindly made arrangements for our accommodation, and the Governor and Chief Warder took such pains to carry them into effect, that we were subjected to but little inconvenience.

Here I would conclude; but that the Roman Catholic Chaplain has personally challenged me in his report for the preceding year, to express an opinion as to the position in which prisoners of different persuasions are here placed, and the probable effects on their religious feelings. I really think that such matters were better dealt with by reporting them to the Directors and calling for an investigation, than by having them

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.

Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.

published to the world, without any investigation at all. But as you think otherwise, and have published them in full, I am compelled most reluctantly, to add a very few words. I say that it is not with the "superior officers" the prisoners feel themselves most concerned; far more deeply are they concerned in their dealings with the "discipline warders" with whom they are in close contact, the officers on whose reports they are judged, and in opposition to whose reports nothing they can say can avail unless they can produce some other "officer" to give evidence in their behalf. Now I do not complain that the great majority of these officers are Roman Catholics; I believe that most of them treat all the prisoners fairly and impartially; yet the fact is patent that scarcely a month passes without notice being given by some professing Protestant of his wish to change his religion. And it is also the fact, that the rules in force in this prison establish a special kind of surveillance over the Protestant prisoners from which the Roman Catholics are free; in fact that there are some rules and regulations made for the Protestants as a class, and they feel it.

I should not have thought that those matters were the fit subject for a public report; but as they have been strongly put and published, on the one side, for the last two years, I thought it right (when specially referred to) to say what I have done.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

THOS. R. SNOOK, Protestant Chaplain.

The Directors of Government Prisons
in Ireland.

Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Male Prison,
10th January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with the thirteenth of the Chaplain's rules, which says, "He shall submit to the Directors, on or before the 10th day of January in each year, a report, in writing, specifying, with reference to the preceding year, the religious and moral condition of the prisoners belonging to his Church, and the apparent effects of the discipline of the prison," I have the honour to submit to you a few observations, firstly, on the moral and religious condition of the Roman Catholic prisoners; and, secondly, on the apparent effects of the discipline of the prison.

I have much pleasure in reporting to you that the religious conduct of the Roman Catholic prisoners has been, on the whole, satisfactory. During the past year a considerable portion of time was allotted to visiting and instructing prisoners in the cells, and much attention and docility were, with few exceptions, manifested by them, in receiving instruction or admonition. I have also to express great satisfaction at the general conduct of the prisoners attending religious instructions, which were given four times each week, and I am happy to be able to report that they took advantage of all the opportunities afforded them, for moral and religious improvement.

Some few prisoners, petty thieves, returned convicts, prisoners habituated to and grown old in vice, cannot, because they will not, be reformed. From familiarity with prison life, such men are so far from being deterred by any sentence that might be inflicted on them, that in several cases they become actually worse, and occasionally employ their time in perverting others. This class of prisoners, small, comparatively speaking,

are, in general, much more guilty than the other convicts. And it is a question for the Government, whether the system might not be greatly improved by keeping these men entirely separate from the other prisoners.

Mountjoy
Main
Convict
Prison.

It is my duty to state, that abundant facilities were given me, according to the prison arrangements, for the exercise of my ministry, and that all the officers with whom my duties brought me into contact, treated me with much kindness and cordiality.

Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.

I have, secondly, to submit to you, gentlemen, my report for the past year, as to the apparent effects of the discipline of the prison. It gives me much pleasure to report, after another year's experience that, all the circumstances being considered, a certain amount of good results has been obtained, mixed, I regret to add, with some evil effects. Our prison system is, undoubtedly, good, and it seems to me that a greater amount of beneficial results might be expected from it. Rules, like laws, depend more, perhaps, upon their administration than their nature for good effects.

Our prison system proposes to itself two objects: the first, to punish the offender, by strict discipline and constant labour; and the second, to teach him the sound principles and practice of morality and religion. These objects are well expressed in No. 4 of the Governor's rules (published in 1864)—“He (the Governor) shall bear in mind that the object of his duties, and of those of all other officers and servants under his direction, is not only to give full effect to the sentence awarded to the convicts during their period of confinement, but also to instil into their minds moral and religious principles, and induce in them practical habits of industry, regularity, and good conduct.”

To give practical application to this wise and important rule, the officers, and more especially the chief officers, ought to have the capacity, zeal, and aptitude to carry on and, as far as possible, complete the work of reformation. It is impossible to overestimate the importance to society of the reformation carried on at our prison. For a number of prisoners, varying from five to seven or eight hundred, receive every year moral training at Mountjoy Prison; and what still more enhances the question, in my regard is, that eighty-five per cent. of this mass of prisoners are Roman Catholics.

I have given some time and attention to this subject, and I submit to you, gentlemen, my conviction, that the true and efficacious way to reform Roman Catholic prisoners, is to make them good Catholics. If we can succeed in this, they will certainly be obedient to the laws, loyal, peaceful, and useful members of society; and will, in the true sense of the word, be reformed. Such is the object which our system has in view.

Here another most important question arises, namely, Is the agency employed for reformation competent? Is it the most suitable and best adapted to the end in view? You will, I think, gentlemen, agree with me, that a Roman Catholic agency is the most suitable for the moral and religious reformation of Roman Catholics. Now what is the case? I beg respectfully, gentlemen, to call your attention to this. In the whole staff of superior officers there is not a single Roman Catholic. The Governor, the Inspector, the Chief Warder, the Registrar, the Steward, the Medical Officer, the Apothecary, the Head Schoolmaster, are all Protestants. I speak not now of individuals, but of a system, and I respectfully ask, can the moral reformation of Roman Catholic prisoners be best and most efficaciously effected by a staff of officers exclusively antagonistic to the religion of the prisoners? They may enforce discipline and give full effect to the sentence awarded to the prisoners; but are they the most suitable agency “to instil into their minds moral and religious principles?”

MONTEJOY
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHAPLAIN'S
REPORT.

Permit me to put this in another light. Let me suppose, that in Pentonville there were a staff of superior officers exclusively Roman Catholic, to reform Protestant prisoners, would the directing or governing power consider them the most suitable agency?

But, gentlemen, there is one of the superior officers, whose duties are more closely interwoven with the moral reformation of prisoners, and this is the Head Schoolmaster. In the Catholic Church, the schoolmaster is looked upon as the confidant of the clergyman, and, in fact, is expected to blend, with secular instruction, moral and religious training. Now, the Head Schoolmaster, who is intrusted, in our prison, with the moral reformation of the Roman Catholic prisoners, committed to my care, is not only non-Catholic, but he has abjured Catholicity, and this, too, while he was teaching Roman Catholic prisoners. If there is one officer more than another whose duty it is to instil into the minds of the prisoners moral and religious principles, that officer is the Head Schoolmaster. I beg, very respectfully, to ask, will he assist in making the Roman Catholic prisoners good Catholics? In truth, gentlemen, a considerable portion of my time is occupied in watching over the Roman Catholic prisoners lest their faith should be interfered with. And what aggravates this evil is, that there is no counterpoise in the teaching staff. Of the three schoolmasters, two are Protestants; only one Roman Catholic. The two senior or superior teachers are Protestant; the lowest is the Roman Catholic. The Roman Catholic prisoners, who are eighty-five per cent. of the whole, have only one teacher of their denomination, and he the lowest; Protestant prisoners, who are only fifteen per cent. of the whole, are favoured with two teachers of their denomination, and these are of higher rank.

But, perhaps, there is a counteracting and compensating power in the prison to supply this defect, and to counteract this evil influence. I am, sorry, gentlemen, to be obliged to say, it is quite the contrary. The person, who of all the superior officers has the most immediate and extensive influence over both inferior officers and prisoners is, like the Head Schoolmaster, a person who injured Catholicity. This is the Chief Warder. It is true that during the past year this officer had been admonished, and thereby, I believe, had been kept from tampering with the prisoners. Formerly there was a Roman Catholic Head Warder co-equal and co-ordinate with the present Chief Warder; but the Protestant Head Warder was promoted to the office of Chief Warder and was granted more extensive powers, leaving the Roman Catholic Head Warder in a subordinate position.*

I submit to you, gentlemen, respectfully, that the apparent effect of this system must be to retard the reformation of Roman Catholic prisoners, if their reformation is to be carried out through Catholic agency and by making them good Catholics. I think I might go farther, and assert that the apparent effect of this system must be pernicious to Roman Catholics. In proof of this I beg to refer you to my "journal," in which I have noted a few of the facts that had fallen under my notice during the past year, and which tend, in my opinion, to show that the faith and morals of the Roman Catholic prisoners are not safe in the hands of the very officers who are charged with their reformation.

But putting aside external influence on the part of the officers, I beg to suggest that the system must, of necessity, produce an unfavourable and an evil influence on the minds of the Roman Catholic prisoners. It will create a morbid and vexed state of mind; and I need not say how difficult

* The Roman Catholic Chaplain has been informed that the Chief Warder was a Protestant before entering the convict service, and that no person has ever been unfairly passed over on his account.—L. S. W., P. J. M.

reformation becomes then. They will suspect, and probably often without reason, that Protestants are favoured and that they would gain, in a temporal point of view, by changing their religion. And in fact, gentlemen, there was a prisoner named P. R., Reg. No. 7,037, who, hypocritically, changed his religion last year, attended the ministrations of the Presbyterian clergyman, and afterwards avowed, and still avows, that his whole object in doing so was to gain a favour that he did not otherwise hope to obtain.

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.
—
Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.

Calmly viewing, then, the state of the prison in all its circumstances, the number of Roman Catholic prisoners, eighty-five per cent., the exclusive appointment of Protestant superior officers, the well-known characters of the two head masters; the one over the school, and the other over the discipline, and, above all, viewing the plain solid principles upon which, our rules tell us, that the moral improvement of the prisoners is to be secured, it is quite clear to me that the working of the prison cannot be productive of satisfactory results with its present staff of officers.

It is painful to me to be obliged to make some of the foregoing observations upon individuals from whom I have always experienced courtesy. But you, gentlemen, will understand, that duty, truth, justice, and an important public interest, ought to prevail over all minor considerations.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

MICHAEL CODY, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

The Manks, Great Charles-street, Dublin,
January 4th, 1866.

Presby-
terian
Chaplain's
Report.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to submit the following as my report for the period of the past year, during which I have held the office of Presbyterian Chaplain in the Mountjoy Male Convict Prison.

From the date of my appointment, April 32nd, 1865, to the close of the year, excepting two weeks in July, and one Sabbath in December, I have discharged the duties of the chaplaincy in person. These duties consist of a sermon with accompanying devotional services on the Sabbath, cell-to-cell visitation for two or three hours one day every week, and special visits in cases of sickness, &c.

The general result, I am happy to report, is most gratifying. Without an exception, the prisoners have given satisfactory evidence of improvement, both intellectually and morally. In some cases the improvement has been very marked. One prisoner is now able to give, from memory, a report of the Sabbath sermon, embracing, not only the leading divisions, but almost every idea, and in some instances, the language of several sentences. It is his custom during his leisure moments in his cell to endeavour to reproduce the sermon by writing it out on a slate.

On the other hand, I have encountered great dulness, ignorance, and indifference. But even the dullest and most indifferent have, after a course of a few months' attentions, been persuaded of a kindly interest in their welfare, and have begun to commit texts of Scripture to memory, and give proof of a desire to become wiser and better. Whilst availing myself of the valuable aid afforded by the interesting library provided for

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.

Presby-
terian
Chaplain's
Report.

the prisoners, I have never lost sight of the truth that the way of salvation revealed in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, furnishes the only effectual remedy for the souls of men.

In regard to the effect of the general system of restraint and instruction to which the prisoners are subjected, I may be permitted to state, that my own impressions of its salutariness have been confirmed by the voluntary testimony of the prisoners themselves. Many of them have told me of their felt indebtedness for the educational benefits they had received during the term of their imprisonment.

I would here beg leave to mention, as a tribute both to the memory of my predecessor, the late Rev. Wm. Wilson, and the gratitude of the prisoners who had enjoyed his ministry as Chaplain, that when they were informed of his death they gave vent to their feelings in tears. His faithfulness and kindness had subdued the hardest of them, and secured their confidence and affection.

I cannot conclude this report without acknowledging the courtesy and kindness with which I have been treated by all the officers of the institution. The Governor, Physician, Chief Warder, and all the officers with whom my duties have brought me in contact, have not only manifested a desire to comply with my requests, but have given evidence of a desire to anticipate my wishes.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

ROBERT WATTS, D.D., Presbyterian Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Head
School-
master's
Report.

HEAD SCHOOLMASTER'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Male Prison,
February 5, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with your request, I have the honour to submit my eleventh annual report, viz., that for the year ended December 31st, 1865.

In looking over the subjoined tabular statement, in which the progress made by the prisoners who passed through this prison on to another convict depot during the past year, is set forth, and contrasting this progress with that of the previous year, an unfavourable conclusion as to the present efficiency of the school must inevitably follow, unless the following circumstances, over which I had no control, be taken into due consideration. By an order dated March 4th, 1865, all school business was suspended, and, by an extension of the same order, remained suspended until Monday, April 3rd, 1865, four clear weeks in all, to enable the schoolmasters to examine the state of the books lent to prisoners, with a view to remove out of the prison stock such books as were found unfit for re-issue from being much damaged or disfigured.

It may be worthy of note that the books put aside to be condemned had been accumulating since the prison first opened, and, spread over such a very lengthened period, the wear, tear, and wilful destruction must have been comparatively very trifling. In the associated division of the prison, where about eighty prisoners had been located since their transfer from Philipstown depot upon the breaking up that establishment in 1862, there was not found a book written on, or otherwise damaged. This satisfactory

state of the books in the cells of the associated prisoners is to be ascribed to the fact of their previous excellent training; and it may be safely instanced, as a proof, that under an efficient check, such as now exists, no danger to the books is to be apprehended from allowing pens and ink to each prisoner in his cell.

The instruction of the prisoners in the school commenced, as usual, after this interval, except in one particular item, viz., the teaching and practising of the art of penmanship—a branch of the school business which remained further suspended till the prisoners were fully provided with the necessary facilities for carrying on this exercise in the school-room, by the creation of new writing-desks, &c., which having been completed, became available on October 7th, 1865. During this lengthened interval of more than seven months the prisoners had no opportunity of learning to write; hence the progress made during the remainder of the year, assuming all other things only equal, must be but five-twelfths of that of the previous year in this particular branch of education; and in the case of the other branches—viz., reading and arithmetic—the progress made must be only eleven-twelfths of that for 1864. This is on the lowest calculation, based on the assumption that the progress of each individual prisoner is equal in every equal period of his detention in this prison—an assumption which is far from being the fact. In previous reports I have directed attention to a circumstance which, upon this head, I had found, from actual observation, to have existed—viz., that prisoners for the first month, and sometimes the first two months, of their imprisonment, make very little or no progress in learning, but that after this period their advancement in each successive month may be represented by an increasing geometrical progression, and that therefore while it is *nil* in the earlier periods, it gradually becomes more and more, until it attains a maximum, in the last month of their detention. During the month in which all school was suspended, the whole of the prisoners then in custody lost, in effect, that particular month's schooling in which the greatest progress is made.

During the previous ten years the practising of penmanship was carried on by the prisoners in their respective cells, where there was always sufficient time available to permit this exercise to take place every day, or even oftener, if a prisoner felt so inclined. Since the writing-desks have been put up in the school-room, the writing is restricted to three days in the week. According to this arrangement, it is easy to see that a prisoner's progress in writing during his eight months' detention here now, may be taken at about half, or perhaps something more than half, of what it might be under the former organization. These observations apply more particularly to such prisoners as are only beginning to learn.

Perhaps it is worthy of note that, previous to the change in the organization of the school respecting the teaching of writing, the progress made by the prisoners in this branch of their education was pre-eminent. Successive National School Inspectors, officially visiting the school, have expressed their astonishment not only at the superior degree of proficiency attained by the best writers, but also at the great progress made by beginners in an incredibly short period. I have been assured by each of these gentlemen respectively that in the whole course of his experience he had never seen anything of the kind in any school—even the very best, National or otherwise—to equal it. To get prisoners to write in their cells instead of in the school-room was an idea of Sir Walter Crofton, *&c.*, late Chairman of the Directors of Convict Prisons.

Less progress appears to have been made in arithmetic also—the proficiency in this branch being about equal upon admission, but lower upon removal—during the past than in the previous year.

MOUNTJOY
MALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

Head
School-
master's
Report.

Mountjoy
Male
Convict
Prison.

Head
School-
master's
Report.

TABLE showing the Progress of the Prisoners* who passed through Mountjoy Male Prison during the Year ending December, 1865.

Subjects examined upon and Degree of Proficiency attained in each.	Numbers.				Per-centages.			
	Admission.		Removal.		Admission.		Removal.	
	1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.
READING—								
Not able, - - - -	168	83	23	26	46.1	41.5	6.3	13.0
Badly, - - - -	100	61	119	73	27.5	30.5	33.7	34.5
Fairly, - - - -	96	56	222	161	26.4	28.0	61.0	50.5
WRITING—								
Not able, - - - -	193	105	63	54	53.6	53.0	17.3	27.0
Badly, - - - -	148	98	163	84	40.6	34.0	28.3	42.0
Fairly, - - - -	21	25	198	62	5.8	13.0	54.4	31.0
ARITHMETIC—								
Unacquainted with any part of S. Rules, - - -	233	128	96	71	64.0	64.0	26.4	35.5
Acquainted with part of S. Rules, - - - -	94	59	154	81	25.8	25.0	49.3	40.5
Acquainted with part of C. Rules, - - - -	25	10	60	18	6.9	5.0	19.5	9.0
Acquainted with Proportion, &c., - - -	12	13	54	30	3.3	6.0	14.8	15.0

Appended to the tabular statement in my last report, showing the progress of the prisoners in 1864, which is there contrasted with that of 1863, the following observations appear:—"The foregoing table shows that the education of the prisoners on admission who passed through the prison during the past year (1864), is lower in reading and writing than that of the same class belonging to the previous year; but instead of showing a reasonably corresponding decline in their proficiency upon removal, it shows quite the contrary, that those who passed through the prison during the past year were upon removal better educated than those of the preceding year—a fact, I respectfully submit, which demonstrates an increased efficiency on the part of the school, at least so far as the teaching of these elementary branches." In the same report I was permitted to place on record my humble testimony as to the suitability of the then existing organization of the school. In doing so, I made use of the following emphatic words, to which I most earnestly but respectfully beg leave to direct particular attention:—"The school has now attained to such a perfect organization, with a view to its complete adaptation to the peculiar exigencies of this establishment, that I would regard any change in the very least of its details as endangering its well-tested and acknowledged efficiency." The report of which the above are extracts is dated February 14th, 1865. The change made in the writing took effect in eighteen days afterwards. Had this change not been made so promptly by the Directors after the perusal of my last report, it is most likely I would have felt it my duty to submit an humble expostulation, with a view to induce a reconsideration of this question; but coming as it did, immediately upon the reading of my report, I felt that the step was final and decisive.

* This includes prisoners physically or mentally incapacitated to learn any of the above branches of education, and it also includes some of the prisoners not allowed on special grounds the privilege of attending school; but it does not include all prisoners removed on medical or other special grounds to another prison, before the expiration of the usual period of probation, viz., eight months, or prisoners discharged direct from Mountjoy.

The time at present spent in writing, three half-hours in the week, had been previously devoted to the teaching of reading and arithmetic, &c. The time now available for the teaching of these branches is less, by that amount, than what had hitherto been employed for this purpose, so that a corresponding or proportionate decline is the inevitable consequence.

MONTEGLO
MAJOR
CONVICT
PRISON.
—
Head
School-
master's
Report.

With the exception of these drawbacks, there was no other circumstance connected, directly or indirectly, with the school calculated to retard the progress of the prisoners. On the contrary there existed some favourable advantages which, to a very great extent, tended to counteract the force of the circumstances which I have submitted, as having acted in an opposite direction.

The number of prisoners attending school has been considerably less, which left a larger amount of individual attention to be given to each prisoner, and hence a much less tax on the instructor's energies, which consequently were less liable to flag in the later portion of his daily duties. The conduct of the prisoners in the school-room has been almost unexceptionable, and their attention to the teacher's instructions, with hardly any exceptions, has been most satisfactory. In fact, I have never known a year of the past eleven, in which the general conduct of the prisoners, and their eagerness to learn, and their anxiety to profit by the opportunities afforded them, to have been so very satisfactory. There has been no prisoner excluded from school, except on the ground of being sufficiently educated; and, practically, there have been no reports of misconduct against prisoners by any of the schoolmasters during the past year. No change has taken place in the teaching power of the school for the last five years, which, from the nature of things, must gradually increase, year after year, in proportion to its more extended practical experience, and, therefore, must be somewhat greater during the past than in the previous year.

My two assistants have assiduously co-operated with me during the past year, both of whom are old and experienced prison schoolmasters, the junior assistant has been ten years, and the senior assistant thirteen years in the convict department. I am thoroughly persuaded that the efficiency of each of them is considerably greater now than it was in the earlier years of their respective services; and, therefore, I would not think it unreasonable—all other things being equal—to expect a larger amount of work to be done in the school, in each succeeding year, than that performed during the year immediately preceding it.

The school statistics of next year's report will be more or less affected by the suspension of all writing for seven-twelfths of the past year, because the last portion of the stream of prisoners, passing through the prison during the period of no writing, will not have left until the present year has considerably advanced.

I respectfully submit that, taking the foregoing circumstances into due consideration, the progress made by the prisoners during the past year is conclusive evidence of a still further increased efficiency on the part of the school.

In conclusion, I beg to express the many obligations I am under to the Governor for his uniform kindness and courtesy, but especially his high-minded impartiality. I am indebted to the Chief Warden for his cordial co-operation; and I feel thankful to each of the principal Wardens for their kind and valuable assistance.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

EDWARD M'GAURAN, Head Schoolmaster.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons in Ireland.

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.*Directors'
Report.*

SPIKE ISLAND PRISON.

The Directors have little to add to the report of last year upon the condition of this prison. The Governor, the Medical Officer, and the Chief Warder, were as zealous as in past years.

The conduct of the subordinate officers has been generally satisfactory. The prison was worked during the year with a considerable number of temporary warders owing to the difficulty of procuring persons willing to become warders who were able to pass the prescribed examination of the Civil Service Commissioners. In future, however, the Directors do not anticipate any difficulties upon this point, as the test has been much reduced.

The conduct of the convicts has in general been very good; the ill-conducted men being chiefly confined to a very depraved and almost irreclaimable class.

The Chaplains report in a highly satisfactory manner on the religious and moral state of the convicts; and the Schoolmasters report favourably of the progress and attention of the men while at instruction.

Mr. Harold, the Head Schoolmaster, and his assistants continue to discharge zealously and efficiently the duties of their department.

Dr. Kelly, the Medical Officer, reports favourably on the general health of the convicts at Spike Island; and Dr. Travers, the Local Medical Officer of Fort Carlisle, reports in an equally satisfactory way upon the health of the prisoners at that station.

The buildings have been maintained for the most part by convict labour in good order and repair.

In the Governor's annexed report the expenses of the prison are specified, they are only those of any ordinary and necessary kind.

At Spike Island the convicts have been employed as usual upon the works under the Royal Engineer Department; and upon works under the same department, the selected class of men have been employed at Fort Carlisle. The convicts employed at this station, are in general considered to be eligible for the intermediate prisons of Smithfield or Lusk, to which it may be considered a probationary stage.

A considerable number of convicts have been for some years employed at Haulbowline; but larger numbers will in future be required there owing to the newly commenced Government dock.

The convicts appear to appreciate fully the system of marks and badges, and are well aware that whether they shall reach the intermediate prison with all its advantages, or be discharged on licence from Spike Island, or be detained there until the full expiration of their sentence, depends entirely upon themselves.

I. S. WHITTY,
PATRICK JOSEPH MURRAY, } *Directors.*

GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

Spike Island Government Prison, January, 1866.

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.Governor's
Report.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with your instructions, I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on Spike Island Convict Prison for the year ended the 31st December, 1865.

The casualties on the staff were very numerous. Several experienced officers were transferred to the Dublin prisons. Six old officers were superannuated—four resigned, two were discharged. And of the temporary warders—of whom we had a large proportion—some twenty-three left on resignation or dismissal. Altogether the staff has been in an incomplete and unsettled state, owing to the difficulty and delay in procuring eligible and duly qualified candidates for the service. The conduct of the permanent portion of the subordinate officers has been generally very satisfactory, and by their united exertions and diligence the difficulties consequent on the casualties above referred to have been fairly met and strict discipline maintained.

The duties of the Chief Warder and the Principal Warders, always of a responsible nature, were performed with their usual zeal and attention, and to my entire satisfaction.

In so far as has come under my knowledge the prisoners have been fairly and justly treated, and their sentences have been duly carried out.

The labour has been chiefly of the same nature and character as stated in former reports. The only change being the employment of a larger number than usual at Haulbowline Island in preliminary works, such as opening a large stone quarry, stone cutting, &c., preparatory to the commencement of the new docks.

At Spike Island and Fort Carlisle the works were carried on under the direction of Captain Warren, Royal Engineers. At the latter place very good progress appears to have been made with the new batteries, and at Spike Island the re-construction of the ramparts mentioned in my last annual report as under consideration, has been commenced, and the work is now in progress. The hours of labour have been precisely the same as heretofore, and the prisoners' earnings credited in accordance with the approved rates.

Daily average number employed on works, . . .	829
Total daily average, ...	901

The buildings are in fair condition. Some few necessary repairs have been provided for in the next estimates.

No abuses have been reported to me, nor am I aware of any existing.

The only occurrence during the year requiring special notice is the case of a prisoner, who, in the month of May last grossly assaulted his warder on the works, and disabling him for the time attempted to effect his escape by swimming to the mainland. A second warder, who was present, raised an alarm, and several boats immediately put out from the pier, and following the prisoner captured him while in the water: he was stripped and had the warder's cutlas in his possession. This was the only attempt at escape, and the prisoner is now undergoing punishment for the offence.

The conduct of the prisoners generally has been good, and the offences, which averaged 14 per cent. per month, inclusive of those committed by the weak-minded and irresponsible prisoners, have been chiefly of a minor nature and confined to a small proportion of the prisoners. One prisoner received corporal punishment for insubordinate conduct.

The weak-minded, irresponsible, and invalid classes have been separated as much as possible from the other prisoners—the Medical Officer giving

SPRING
ISLAND
PRISON.
—
Governor's
Report.

all necessary directions as to their disposal and treatment, but whether at work or in their wards they are kept under close and special observation, and I am happy to say no casualty occurred among them.

As a deterrent punishment the strict discipline and treatment of the penal class produces very satisfactory results, and the necessary restraint under which this class of prisoners are placed, whether in separation or association, has a very salutary effect on the prisoners generally, and over-awes the evil-disposed from acts of violence.

The day and evening schools have been conducted with the same zeal and regularity as usual, and, with very few exceptions, the prisoners have been attentive and orderly.

The religious instructions have been strictly adhered to, and attended with the usual punctuality on the part of the respective chaplains.

I am happy to state that the same good feeling exists among the staff generally as mentioned in my last report, and I have had the cordial support and co-operation of all ranks.

The Statistical and Expenditure Returns are annexed: after 31st March, 1865, the general payments were transferred from the Governor to the Paymaster-General under the new Treasury regulations.

I hereby certify that the rules laid down for the government of the prison have been complied with during the past year, except in such cases as have been reported to, or brought under the notice of the Inspector or the Directors.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER HAY, Governor.

The Directors of Government Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

RETURN showing the CRIMES of 841 CONVICTS in CUSTODY on the 31st December, 1865.

Murder, - - - - -	19	Burglary, and burglary and previous conviction, - - - - -	39
Conspiracy to murder, - - - - -	1	Housebreaking, and housebreaking and robbery, - - - - -	35
Soliciting to murder, - - - - -	5	Robbery, - - - - -	16
Shooting at with intent to murder, - - - - -	1	Larceny, and larceny and previous conviction, - - - - -	214
Attempt to discharge a loaded pistol with intent to do grievous bodily harm, - - - - -	1	Stealing from the person, and stealing from the person and previous conviction, - - - - -	56
Administering poison, - - - - -	2	Larceny from the person and stealing, and former conviction for felony, - - - - -	2
Manslaughter, - - - - -	12	Entering a dwelling with intent to steal, - - - - -	2
Stabbing, cutting, and wounding, - - - - -	10	Being concealed in a house by night with intent to steal, - - - - -	2
Felonious, malicious, grievous, and other assaults, - - - - -	15	Larceny and prison breach, - - - - -	1
Rescue and assault, - - - - -	1	Receiving stolen goods, - - - - -	26
Assault and robbery, - - - - -	14	Forgery, - - - - -	6
Assault with intent to rob, - - - - -	6	Uttering forged notes, - - - - -	6
Feloniously wounding with intent to rob and do grievous bodily harm, - - - - -	3	Passing base coin, - - - - -	1
Sacrilege, - - - - -	8	Having base coin in possession, - - - - -	1
Highway robbery, - - - - -	14	Feloniously having base coin in possession with intent to utter, after previous conviction, - - - - -	2
Rape, and rape and aiding, - - - - -	26	Having coining implements in possession, - - - - -	1
Feloniously abusing a child, - - - - -	1	Obtaining money under false pretences, - - - - -	3
Carnally knowing females under twelve years of age, - - - - -	2	Felony of post letters and their contents, - - - - -	5
Abduction, - - - - -	2		
Bigamy, - - - - -	5		
Arson and attempt at arson, - - - - -	34		
Felony, and felony and previous conviction, - - - - -	17		
Burglary and robbery, and burglary and felony, - - - - -	59		

SPRINK
ISLAND
PRISON.

ABSTRACT ACCOUNT showing the ESTIMATED VALUE of the PRODUCTIVE LABOUR of the Prisoners, and the NUMBER EMPLOYED, during the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Governor's
Report.

How Employed.	Daily Average Number Employed for 361 days.	Estimated Value of Work performed.	Total.
PRISON WORKS.			
Tailors, - - - - -	17	£ 641 15 0	£ s. d.
Shoemakers, - - - - -	9	339 15 0	
Smiths and Nailers, - - -	1	45 6 0	
Do. beginners, - - - - -	2	60 6 0	
Carpenters, - - - - -	1	37 15 0	
Do. beginners, - - - - -	1	22 13 0	
Painters, - - - - -	2	75 10 0	
Repairing Beds, Prisoners' Socks, &c.,	7	100 14 0	
Timsmiths and Coopers, - -	2	60 8 0	
Labourers in Prison Garden and on Prison Works generally, - -	45	679 10 0	
Washing in Laundry, - - -	12	362 8 0	
Bakers, - - - - -	6	271 16 0	
Cooks, - - - - -	6	90 12 0	
Fatigue work, Cleaning, Messing, &c.,	37	558 14 0	
Boatmen, - - - - -	21	317 2 0	
Picking Oakum (on wet days, &c.),	11	41 10 6	
Do. (Invalids), - - - - -	4	5 0 8	
	184		3,715 17 2
ROYAL ENGINEER WORKS.			
Carpenters and Sawyers, - -	4	151 0 0	
Do. beginners, - - - - -	4	90 12 0	
Smiths, - - - - -	4	181 4 0	
Do. beginners, - - - - -	4	120 16 0	
Masons and Stonemasons, - -	15	679 10 0	
Do. beginners, - - - - -	33	1,057 0 0	
Labourers, Quarrymen, &c., -	485	7,553 10 0	
	551		9,503 12 0
WAR DEPARTMENT (HAULDOVINE).			
Labourers, - - - - -	14	317 2 0	
	14		317 2 0
NAVAL DEPARTMENT (HAULDOVINE).			
Stonemasons, - - - - -	1	45 6 0	
Labourers, - - - - -	38	573 16 0	
Picking Oakum (on wet days, &c.),	31	117 0 6	
Do. (Invalids), - - - - -	10	12 11 8	
	80		748 14 2
Total, - - - - -	839		14,385 5 4

Daily Average Number employed,	-	-	-	829
" " " not employed (in Cells, in Hospital,	-	-	-	72
and at School), -	-	-	-	
Total Daily Average,	-	-	-	901

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of SPRINK ISLAND PRISON for the year ended 31st December, 1865.

Head of Service.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Salaries of Principal Officers and Clerks, - - -	2,024 10 0
Wages of Subordinate Officers and Servants, - -	4,870 11 11
Rations for Officers and allowances in lieu thereof, -	601 0 3
Uniforms for Officers and Servants, - - -	78 16 10
Victualling prisoners, - - - - -	5,681 3 10
Clothing, &c., for prisoners, - - - - -	625 17 10

STATEMENT of the PRISON EXPENDITURE—continued.

Head of Service.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Bedding for prisoners, - - - - -	10	11	7
Medicines, surgical instruments, &c., - - - - -	78	6	8
Medical comforts (extras for the sick), - - - - -	28	14	11
Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation, - - - - -	115	18	2
Gratuities to convicts, &c., - - - - -	350	7	4
Furniture and fittings, - - - - -	39	16	7
Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c., - - - - -	21	15	11
Fuel and light, - - - - -	947	15	6
Ordinary repairs (buildings), - - - - -	187	0	11
Washing and repairs of linen, - - - - -	152	1	10
Soap, scouring and cleaning articles, - - - - -	48	6	11
Brushes, brooms, and mops, - - - - -	29	8	0
Funeral expenses, bequests, &c., - - - - -	0	10	6
Various small disbursements, - - - - -	189	11	0
Rent, rates, and taxes, - - - - -	100	0	0
Total payments, - - - - -	£16,132	7	8

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON,
Governor's
Report.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Spike Island Convict Prison,
30th January, 1866.

Medical
Superinten-
dent's
Report.

GENTLEMEN.—I beg leave to submit my report on the sanitary state of Spike Island Prison for the year 1865.

Subjoined is a general statement of the numbers treated in hospital during the year:—

TABLE No. 1.

Number of sick remaining in hospital on the 1st of January, 1865, from the preceding year, - - - - -	5
Number admitted since, to the 31st December inclusive, - - - - -	235
Total under treatment during the year, - - - - -	240
Of these there were discharged from hospital, - - - - -	219
Med., - - - - -	10
Remaining in hospital on the 1st January, 1866, - - - - -	11
Total, - - - - -	240

The following table specifies the diseases with which the patients admitted during the year were affected:—

TABLE No. 2.

Mild fever, - - - - -	30	Erysipelas, - - - - -	2
Headache, "violent," - - - - -	5	Ophthalmia, - - - - -	9
Epilepsy, - - - - -	4	Fractures, "simple," - - - - -	3
Paraplegia, or paralysis, - - - - -	1	Fractures, "comminuted," - - - - -	2
Catarrh, - - - - -	12	Paronychia, or whitlow, - - - - -	2
Laryngitis, - - - - -	1	Phlegmon, - - - - -	1
Tonsillitis, - - - - -	2	Scrofula, - - - - -	6
Asthma, - - - - -	1	Scalds, - - - - -	1
Bronchitis, - - - - -	18	Abscesses, - - - - -	10
Pneumonia, - - - - -	12	Ulcers, - - - - -	5
Hæmoptysis, - - - - -	7	Hip disease, - - - - -	1
Phtisis, - - - - -	11	Hydrocele, - - - - -	1
Heart disease, - - - - -	1	Paraphimosis, - - - - -	1
Angina Pectoris, - - - - -	1	Orchitis, - - - - -	2
Colic, - - - - -	6	Files, - - - - -	1
Enteritis, - - - - -	1	Rheumatism, - - - - -	11
Constipation, - - - - -	18	Lumbago, - - - - -	2
Diarrhoea, - - - - -	7	Stricture, - - - - -	1
Anasarca, - - - - -	2	Skin disease, - - - - -	1
Toothache, - - - - -	1		
Debility, - - - - -	9		
Wounds or contusions, - - - - -	19	Total, - - - - -	235

in the year 1864, it would appear that there has been no increase in the daily average, showing that the admissions though more numerous were not of a character requiring long detention in hospital.

Ten deaths occurred during the year, a mortality somewhat in excess of last year; the fatal cases being amongst the aged and invalids with weak constitutions labouring under consumption. In two instances the patients had been returned convicts, and all had undergone lengthened periods of confinement in county or city prisons.

It will be seen by the annexed tables, that the diseases, from which the patients in general suffered, were of the character ordinarily observed here. The cases of bronchitis, pneumonia, and other affections of the lungs, were, owing to the severity of the winter, serious, and in some instances fatal.

The ophthalmia was principally confined to the superficial structures of the eye. In a single instance, a scrofulous subject, opacity of the cornea and consequent loss of vision of one eye had followed.

No disease of a contagious or epidemic nature appeared within the prison, although measles and scarlatina were prevalent amongst the population outside.

The casualties were few, but in many instances serious. Two cases of compound comminuted fractures are recorded, in both of which, viz., a fore-finger and leg, it was considered absolutely necessary to resort to amputation in order to save life. Full particulars of both accidents have been forwarded.

The health of the subordinate officers has been good; twenty-three received treatment in hospital and five in their own quarters.

I beg to thank you very much for your prompt attention to my request for increased accommodation in the hospital, and I would now earnestly suggest that some alteration should be made therein, so as to afford, if possible, the convenience and great advantage of a water-closet, which is so absolutely required in such an institution.

In conclusion I consider it right to acknowledge and report to you, that Mr. O'Connell, the hospital assistant, continues to discharge the duties intrusted to him with untiring zeal, fidelity, and intelligence.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

J. H. KELLY, Medical Superintendent.

The Directors of Convict
Prisons.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Spike Island Government Prison,
January 9, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to present my report for the year ending 31st December, 1865. Within that period I performed divine service on 54 occasions, Lord's Supper administered 4, prisoners catechised, 91; visited cells, 80; also prison school.

The conduct of the prisoners under my charge, throughout the year, has been very satisfactory. They always appeared attentive and orderly at divine service on Sunday, and on lecture days seemed desirous to profit from whatever instruction I was enabled to impart during the time set apart for that purpose; singing at divine service is still continued by the men, who prepare for it whenever they have an opportunity, and the Lord's Supper devoutly and reverently partaken of by those who remained

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.

Medical
Superintendent's
Report.

Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.
—
*Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.*

in for its celebration. I am thankful to say I had not many visits to pay to the cells as the men confined there were few, and but for trivial offences. Having nothing of moment to communicate further than to observe that the duties throughout the year were regularly performed—

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,
JOSEPH G. BOUCHIER, Protestant Chaplain.

The Directors of Government Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

*Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.*

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Spike Island, January 10, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to furnish you with my report for the year ending 31st December, 1865, which is my seventeenth annual report as the Roman Catholic Chaplain of this prison.

I feel much pleasure in being able to report that the religious and moral condition of the Roman Catholic prisoners confined here was very satisfactory during the year. I found the great majority of them always anxious to receive my instructions and ministrations, and their demeanour in the chapel on Sundays and at morning prayer on week days was invariably reverential and attentive. There was no complaint in that respect during the year.

In consequence of the long and severe illness of the Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain, the late Rev. C. Tuohy (whose loss was deeply regretted by the prisoners and by the whole prison staff), the entire of the duties devolved upon myself for the greater part of the year. Nevertheless I endeavoured to omit none of the usual and prescribed duties, all of which were duly performed exactly as during the preceding years. Ample opportunities were afforded to the Roman Catholic officers and prisoners for complying with their religious obligations, and I am happy to say that those opportunities were fully availed of. The great body of the Roman Catholic prisoners received the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Communion, not only at Easter and Christmas, but also frequently during the year. And what afforded still additional cause for satisfaction and thankfulness, was the fact, that out of the large number of Roman Catholic prisoners here not more than twenty neglected to comply with the prescribed penitential practices, and to receive the Holy Sacraments, in order to obtain the spiritual graces and benefits of the general jubilee which was afforded by the Church to the Catholic people during the last year—all which clearly shows, as regards the Roman Catholic prisoners, that however far they may have strayed from the paths of rectitude by the temptations of the world, their hearts are still open to the influences of religion, and when once its saving grace takes hold on their souls, there is no spiritual reformation or moral good which we may not hope for them. I am therefore convinced that the peace, order, and general submission to discipline and labour manifested by the prisoners during the last year, was in no small degree attributable to the influences of religion upon them.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,
T. F. LROSS, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

ASSISTANT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.

Spike Island, January, 1866.

*Assistant
Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.*

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with your instructions, I beg to submit to you this my first annual report since my appointment to the Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplaincy of this prison, and in doing so I may remark that, although connected with the establishment only for the last six months, yet owing to my holding the Roman Catholic Chaplaincy of the Cork County and City Gaols for over two years, and thus having an intimate knowledge of prison life, I can on that account fully appreciate the working of the entire prison machinery in Spike Island. The rules and regulations for the order and well-being of the establishment are in every way calculated to have the desired effect; but to arrive at this happy result, great prudence and discretion are absolutely necessary. I am happy to report that the officers of the prison, with a few exceptions, have carried out those rules prudently and wisely. I cannot speak too highly of the superior officers of the establishment, particularly of the Governor, Mr. Hay, whose singular aptitude for the duties of his office has tended in a great measure to bring about the efficient state of things that exists in the prison. The religious exercises of the prisoners have been attended to, and carried out punctually and strictly, by the Rev. Mr. Lyons and myself—morning prayer, giving religious instructions in the chapel, hearing confessions, celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and preaching on Sundays and holydays. The other duties of our office, visiting the hospital and attending to the spiritual wants of the sick there, visiting the cells and giving suitable advice to those confined in them, visiting the school and seeing the classes examined, &c., I have discharged to the best of my ability. It was gratifying to see how attentive the hospital officers were to the comforts of the sick, particularly Mr. O'Connell, the resident apothecary, whose kind manner makes him a very suitable person for such a situation. In the school which I daily visited I observed the closest attention paid to their duties by the resident teachers, Messrs. McCartan and Ryan. The prisoners appear anxious to improve themselves; and it must be gratifying to the teachers to see their efforts thus rewarded by a corresponding exertion on the part of those under their tuition. Order and regularity also prevail in the other departments of the prison, so that there is nothing in those calling for special notice from me.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. BARRY, Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*Presby-
terian
Chaplain's
Report.*

Spike Island, 9th January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to lay before you my report for the year 1865.

No new feature has presented itself in the even tenor of my duties during the bygone year. I have conducted divine service, and given religious instruction, at Carlisle Fort and at Spike Island as before; and the attention and demeanor of the prisoners has been quite satisfactory.

It is well known that this outward demeanor is often a very fallacious

Spikes
Island
Prison.

Presby-
terian
Chaplain's
Report.

criterion, especially among men circumstanced as these prisoners are. But I have seen no reason to be disappointed in the one or two cases in which I hoped that the word of God, blessed by His Spirit, has reached the heart, and was reforming the character; nor in the general trust that that word was doing good among them.

I have regularly visited those who were confined in cells, and those sick in hospital.

I beg to bring under your notice the fact that the prisoners who are working at Haulbowline Island are thereby precluded from attending on religious instruction on the week days, and to suggest that some arrangement might be made to enable them to join the others at Spike Island on the days of lecture.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WM. J. KERTLAND, LL.D., Presbyterian Chaplain.

To the Directors of Government Prisons,
Ireland.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—FORT CARLISLE.

Farside Villa, 10th January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—As the natural result of admirable discipline; excellent ventilation; wholesome food; cleanliness and active employment; the prisoners at Carlisle Fort continued to enjoy a remarkable freedom from disease during the past year.

All urgent cases were attended without delay, and night visits were frequently made when required.

My duties have considerably increased with the large accession of convicts which has been placed on the works; large numbers presenting themselves at each of my visits, for medical advice and medicines, for which they seem to have a peculiar relish.

I think it right to state that the prisoners have been uniformly civil and respectful in their manner to me during my interviews with them.

In conclusion I beg to add that I have always received most valuable assistance in the performance of my duty, from your excellent officer, Mr. Campbell.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT BOYLE TRAVERS, M.D., &c.,
Medical Officer, Carlisle Fort, Convict Prison.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT—FORT CARLISLE.

Fort Carlisle, December 31, 1865.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to submit the following brief and satisfactory report of the prison at Fort Carlisle as far as relates to my place and duties.

I officiated in public worship every Lord's Day with one exception throughout the year.

I generally visited the prisoners for religious instruction each week and occasionally the school, which is ably conducted.

The demeanor of the prisoners was orderly and attentive.

I have to add that I experienced from Mr. Campbell and the other prison officers the utmost respect and attention.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,
FRANCIS SHORRY, Protestant Chaplain.

To the Directors of
Government Prisons.

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.
—
*Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.*

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT—FORT CARLISLE.

Aghada, January, 1866.

*Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.*

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with your request I forward my report for 1865 on the convict station at Carlisle Fort.

The usual duties of Roman Catholic Chaplains have been performed there for the year. On every Sunday and holyday of our Church Mass has been celebrated at the Fort. By me and my two reverend assistants arrangements have been made to visit there another day in the week for the purpose of giving spiritual advice and instruction, and to afford those who would desire it, an opportunity of going to confession. I am enabled to say that on the occasion of every visit a considerable number of the convicts have availed themselves of this opportunity, and that most of them, if not all, have prepared themselves to receive the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist in the course of the year, some more frequently, and others less often. In this matter all, of course, is left to conviction and the influence of God's grace, while on every occasion holy and encouraging advice is imparted.

As this is an intermediate station destined for convicts of good conduct, and who are on the way to a speedy liberation, it is but natural to expect from them a due submission to rule, an attention to religious instruction, and a resignation and cheerfulness at the works where they are employed. As far as my experience of them goes I think that such is fortunately the case. I have the satisfaction to be able to say, as on former occasions, that every facility has been afforded us for the performance of our duties, and that from Mr. Campbell, and from all others with whom we officially come in contact at the Fort we have always experienced courtesy and attention.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
RICHARD SMIDY, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

HEAD SCHOOLMASTER'S REPORT.

Fort Carlisle, January 12, 1866.

*Head
School-
master's
Report.*

GENTLEMEN,—Your order calls forth my eleventh annual report. I have little to state, as it would be a loss of time to be rehearsing that with which you are already familiar. Having nearly 200 men in Fort Carlisle, I could devote but little time to teaching in Spike Island during the year; but I frequently visited and examined the schools there, and the very laudable improvement in the several classes during this year was more forcibly impressed on my mind than in former years, because the periods that elapsed between my visits were shorter formerly than recently, and the gradual progress was not then so apparent, though perhaps quite as much as now. It is almost superfluous to express my approbation of the indefatigable and energetic discharge of their onerous duties by Messrs. McCartan and Ryan, the teachers in Spike Island, as I have done so in every former report. It is a pleasing duty to have to

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.

Head
School-
master's
Report.

report that they and I have worked together for the last ten years; that during that long period the slightest disagreement has not occurred between us, but, on the contrary, the greatest unanimity and harmony have prevailed. This unity of intention and action affords a good example to those whom we are instructing (who are very observant), and increases the efficiency of the "teaching power," as there is no cold reserve, no formal clinging to the mere programme of duties pointed out; for though each has certain duties to perform, he does not confine himself to these, but affords assistance to the other, when he can, and when it is needed.

The teachers' reports of the schools in Spike Island will afford the necessary information. I will briefly state a few particulars respecting the school in Fort Carlisle, with the statistics of the schools in general.

Fort Carlisle convict school consists of two parts, nearly equal in numbers, the one attending by day, the other attending by night. The day scholars (by your order) are divided into two sections. The less educated—viz., first, second, and Sequel school classes—receive instructions for three mornings in the week, from nine to a quarter to twelve o'clock; the other, or more improved section—viz., third, fourth, and fifth school classes—receive one morning's instruction in the week, from nine to a quarter to twelve o'clock. The night scholars receive nearly two hours' instruction every evening in the week, except Sunday.

This arrangement is in keeping with the original order of "the Directors" in January, 1858. At that time I wrote out programmes of proficiency to be attained by the respective classes before removal to higher; this became necessary for the following reasons—that the beneficent intentions of the Directors in allowing three half days' instruction weekly to the very deficient portion of the convicts should be fully complied with; that these intentions should not be abused by extending this time beyond a reasonable period, and thereby causing a loss to the public works; that imposition might be effectually prevented—for, strange as it may appear, many have applied to be relieved from attendance for three half days, thinking one half day preferable; these are parties desirous to obtain some place, or "tack," as they call it, which would require their constant attendance, or anxious to be put to some trade, to which three weekly attendances at school (it would appear) oppose some barrier. When such a case occurs, the applicant strives to persuade his teacher that he has improved so much that he is eligible to a higher class, and needs but one half day in the week, but when examined according to the programme, he *fails*, and cannot therefore complain of the teacher's non-concession.

In Fort Carlisle school, in the course of the year, after being examined on the programme and found equal to it, 143 have been removed to higher reading classes—not mentioning the promotions in arithmetic, writing, &c.; this is a very large number in one year, and fully proves the efficiency of the schools. Carlisle school is not to get credit for all this; very many were nearly fit for higher classes when removed from Spike Island. These removals have considerably increased the numbers on the "works," as twenty-one of them have been changed from three attendances to one in the week. At the beginning of the year there were fifty-four of the three half-day classes in Carlisle; at the end there are only twenty-five. At the end of the year forty out of ninety-three advanced men attending the night school are in the fifth or highest book of the series, and only fourteen out of ninety-four of the first-conduct class attending the day school are in this book; therefore the advanced men arriving at highest school class are nearly as three to one of the others not as yet "advanced" attending the day school. This is an important fact, and shows that advancement in good conduct and progress in education are, like the Siamese twins, inseparable. Out of 223, the gross number on

Carlisle school-books, twelve were sent to Spike Island as boatmen, two as forgers, three to infirmary, and nineteen for slight offences. Only one of these nineteen offenders belonged to the fifth or highest school class. The offences of the lower classes are to those of the highest as 5·07 to 1, or more than five times as many—another proof that education rightly directed exercises a strong moral and Christian influence in the reformation of the inmates of the "convict prisons."

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.
—
Head
School-
master's
Report.

The peculiarity of my position affords me opportunities which others have not, of viewing the convict under his different phases. I visit Spike Island, I see him at his reception, and frequently after, before he comes under my own *immediate tuition*, and I can truly say that the salutary change which has been effected in his person, manner, conduct, and entire character, by religious ministrations, by teaching, training, working, and wholesome discipline, from his entrance to Spike Island until his removal hence, is very great.

The lessons taught in our schools are judiciously explained, and the motives, incidents, characters, and personifications therein narrated are approved or censured according to their merits or demerits. In many of these dissertations the convict beholds the reflex of his own conduct, and silently ponders it. I think I may fairly claim, on the part of the schools, a share in this salutary change which I have described.

Christian motives being more efficacious than all others in effecting the removal of the "old man of sin" and in putting on the "new man" of grace, I cheerfully embrace the opportunity afforded me of inculcating these motives—so far as a layman is privileged, though not a specified part of my duty—by reciting morning prayer, and reading a chapter every morning from an authorized pious book, for the Roman Catholic prisoners, who are 162 out of 187. I trust this *feeble* effort of mine is ancillary to the rev. chaplain's *sublime* ministrations, which are producing good fruit, as many of the prisoners here are, in my opinion, sincere, good Christians, and if there are others who are not, it is consoling that the fault lies with themselves.

The holding of the night schools in the dormitories both in Spike Island and Carlisle is a great drawback to their efficiency, because there cannot be proper arrangements made for instructing from desks, maps, black boards, and diagrams, which would all require fixed places. The night teaching with artificial light for so many years, as it has been continued in Spike Island and here, is undoubtedly more impairing to the faculties, especially the sight, of the teachers, than any amount of day teaching. A dormitory is not a pleasant or wholesome school-room, neither is it pleasant to be locked into it every evening for two hours after the work of the day. To this subject I have never before alluded, neither do I now complain of it, because I know that the circumstances of the prison afford no remedy.

Being kept so constantly to out-door labour during the squally, broken days of winter in this elevated and exposed place, the convict's life is very trying, and he requires much patience to maintain equanimity. Often chill and tired, with bleeding hands, from handling wet brick and mortar, he has to attend the night school, when rest would be more acceptable; yet there is no murmuring—all cheerfully attend to their studies and lessons. The quiet of the school was only interrupted in one solitary instance during the year.

In the course of my instructions I take opportunities of advising the adoption of industrious pursuits and temperate habits in future life; and the earnest desire which prevails to learn trades, or obtain a knowledge of some business in life, by which to secure maintenance hereafter, is proof of a good intention. I take a special interest in the prisoners' pro-

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON,

Head
School-
master's
Report.

gress in skilled labour, and I frequently visit the parties employed in building batteries. I have been agreeably surprised at the great skill and ability which men very lately put to trades exhibit, and at their zeal for the workmanlike and tasteful finish of the several parts allotted to them by their able, persuasive, and painstaking instructor, Mr. Gallahar. It is somewhat mystical that men can be brought to take such an interest in securing prisons and making fortifications for their own incarceration; but there is in every man who is not wicked an innate divine principle which makes him wish the work of his hand good and approved. There is also a sincere desire to excel in the different trades, in order to obtain by them future support. In the present state of the labour market such discharged convicts need not urge want as the cause of their return to prison, were the existing prejudices against them removed; but except in Dublin and its vicinity, where Mr. Organ has wiped them away, these prejudices are inveterate. Instances have come under my own observation of feeling appeals made by discharged convicts to obtain employment, which were instantly repelled by persons noted for benevolence to *others* in distress, dreading the slightest contact, as if contagious. I am not surprised that some, who are destitute of friends or other aid, are not proof against the consequent privations they must suffer, and become unwilling outlaws on the wild commons of misfortune, misery, and crime.

I take the liberty of expressing my obligations to my superiors in office for the attention they have paid to the schools during the year. Mr. Campbell, the principal warder in Fort Carlisle, has afforded me every facility within his province for the discharge of my duties. Justice and strictness, tempered with humanity, are the prominent features of his management of this branch of the convict establishment. The warders here are also very efficient officers; they have done their duties in the school during the year in a satisfactory manner.

The state of the schools in Spike Island and Fort Carlisle on the 30th of December, 1865, is exhibited in the following tables:—

CLASSES.	Spike Island.		Fort Carlisle.	Total.
	Day School.	D & N Prisoners.	Day and Night.	
READING—				
First Book, - - -	16	-	5	21
Second Book, - - -	58	13	12	83
Sequel Book, - - -	68	17	29	114
Third Book, - - -	186	28	42	256
Fourth and Fifth Books, -	128	147	99	374
Total, - - -	406	207	187	800
WRITING—				
Unable to write, - - -	23	-	-	23
Large hand, - - -	39	3	13	55
Small hand, - - -	344	204	174	722
Total, - - -	406	207	187	800
ARITHMETIC—				
Making figures, - - -	-	-	-	-
Simple rules, - - -	250	72	91	413
Compound rules, - - -	51	29	27	107
Proportion, and above, -	105	113	69	287
Total, - - -	406	207	187	800

From these tables the following information may be gathered :—

1st. The sum of the attendances at the three schools on the 30th of December, 1865, was 800.

2nd. All of these except twenty-one can read, and 580, the third, fourth, and fifth classes, can read well.

3rd. All except twenty-three can write; 777 write small hand.

4th. All know some arithmetic; 387 are learning compound rules, proportion, and above.

All have some knowledge of geography—all except twenty-one have a fair knowledge of it—and are not deficient in general information. The twenty-one in the lowest class are old men with impaired faculties and young men of weak intellects, incapable of making any visible improvement.

I believe this report is correct in every essential particular.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

MICHAEL HAROLD.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.

Head
School-
master's
Report.

ASSISTANT-SCHOOLMASTERS' REPORTS.

Spike Island Convict Prison,
January 8, 1866.

Assistant
School-
masters'
Reports.

Sir,—In accordance with your instructions, I submit to you a report of the school under my charge, together with the statistics for the year ending the 31st December, 1865.

In doing so I may remark that there is no new feature worthy of notice to be observed in the course of instruction pursued, or in the general management of the school from that of former years. The time allowed for the men at school continues the same; those in the 3rd and 4th classes are divided into six sections, each of which attends school one morning in the week, from 8½ till 12 o'clock, while the 1st, 2nd, and sequel classes are divided into two sections, and attend on alternate days from 1 till 4 o'clock, this arrangement gives to the latter or lower classes, nine hours schooling in the week, while the former or more advanced get only three hours in the week each.

The conduct of the men when at school has been satisfactory, which is shown by the small number of reports during the year; this I attribute to their being kept constantly employed when at school, together with the excellent system of discipline which prevails, so that even the badly disposed have not time or opportunity to offend against the rules of the prison. It is worthy of remark that those who frequently commit themselves in their wards or on the works are, with few exceptions, as industrious and attentive when in school as any of the other prisoners.

The few reports alluded to above were principally for idleness during lessons, or an evident indifference to instruction, for which the offenders were punished by being removed from school for three or more months as the case deserved; this course has had a beneficial effect, as the men so removed, have, in almost every case, come to ask me to intercede for them, that they might again be allowed to attend, and in no instance where they have been readmitted, have I had reason to complain of their attention to business.

The school is always well supplied with the necessary requisites for the

SPIKE
ISLAND
PRISON.Assistant
School-
masters'
Reports.

use of the prisoners, who are also furnished with books suited to their different capacities in their cells and wards.

The annexed table, which includes the statistics for 1864, shows the state of the school on the 31st of December, 1865.

Classes.	1864.	1865.
READING—		
First Book, - - - -	27	16
Second Book, - - - -	60	58
Sequel, - - - -	107	69
Third Book, - - - -	161	136
Fourth Book, - - - -	191	128
Total, - - - -	572	406
WRITING—		
Unable to write, - - - -	33	23
Large hand, - - - -	39	39
Small hand, - - - -	509	344
Total, - - - -	572	406
ARITHMETIC—		
Simple rules, - - - -	361	230
Compound rules, - - - -	77	51
Proportion, and above, - - - -	134	105
Total, - - - -	572	406

Of 406 on the rolls on the 31st December, 390 can read; 264, the number in 3rd and 4th classes, read well, and, with few exceptions, write with ease and facility; these classes are frequently exercised in writing from dictation; the men in the sequel class read and write fairly, and have a knowledge of the first four rules of arithmetic, and of the outlines of the map of the world; those in the higher classes have a good knowledge of geography and arithmetic, and are familiar with the subjects treated of in the Lesson Books.

In the 1st and 2nd classes there are many old men with impaired faculties, who are incapable of making much visible progress, yet they endeavour to do what they can; besides reading and writing, these are frequently exercised on geography.

Edward Sheehy, esq., Inspector of National Schools, visited and examined the school during the year.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS McCARTAN.

Mr. M. Harold, Fort Carlisle.

Spike Island, January 4, 1866.

SIR,—I submit according to order my report on the D. prison evening-school for the year just closed.

This school, as you are aware, is attended only by prisoners of the "Advanced (Conduct) Class," who come to it by drafts three times per week in rotation, so that each prisoner receives $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours' instruction in that interval, that is, two reading and two writing lessons, each lasting three-quarters of an hour, besides a lesson in arithmetic lasting an hour and a half. The last-named lesson is occasionally shortened by half an hour to make way for grammar or geography. These subjects are also treated of in connexion with reading, when there is an opportunity of testing the prisoners' knowledge on the principles and rules previously explained, and of exercising them on the method of parsing, &c.

Though the time set apart for instruction may appear limited, yet a good deal of information on a varied scale can be imparted. The books used in the school are those of the National Board, which embrace a wide range of subjects, and these are so inculcated at each lesson, that they are fairly understood by the prisoners before quitting them. The greatest possible attention is paid not only to the important branches of reading, writing, and arithmetic, but to every branch taught in the school, and it is satisfactory to observe that the prisoners fully appreciate this and become in time very good scholars. There are several men attending the evening school who can work McGinley's Arithmetic from cover to cover, and who are excellent writers and good grammarians, though they were almost illiterate before conviction.

SPRING
ISLAND
PRISON.

Assistant
School-
masters'
Reports.

It is worthy of note that every man in the school can write, and that 204 out of 207 write smallhand; that every man can read, and that 147, or 71 per cent. of the entire, can read and understand the highest reading-book published by the Board. The progress in arithmetic keeps pace with that in reading and writing, a fact which proves that no one subject engrosses the time that should be devoted to another. There are at present only 72 at the first four rules of arithmetic, while there are 22 at compound rules, and 113 at proportion and above. These facts, I submit, are very satisfactory, and bear clear and forcible testimony to the amount of labour expended in the school. I append a table at foot showing the classification of the prisoners attending the evening school on the 30th December, 1865.

It has always been a pleasure to me to bear testimony, both orally and in writing, to the excellent conduct of the prisoners at school, in fact, judged by that standard, they would appear a superior class of men. I always found them obedient, cheerful, respectful, and diligent at lessons, and far more manageable than an equal number of boys. They are employed at hard and constant toil during the day, and since the commencement of the Royal Docks at Haulbowline, have often, though unavoidably, been drenched with rain and tide from head to foot, yet on these, or on any other occasions, they never showed any reluctance or grumbling at coming to school. To the credit of the authorities here it must be mentioned that when there is a real necessity for a change of clothing it is promptly and cheerfully given. This is as it should be, and serves alike both the health of the institution and the interest of the public service.

Authority never appears to more advantage than when directed to the performance of considerate and humane acts. In conclusion, I have only to say that the results of the school department, the high moral tone of the prisoners, the absence of combination or resistance to authority, and the readiness and regularity with which they turn out and perform their numerous tasks from one end of the year to the other, are evidences of superior discipline both mental and physical, which must be gratifying not only to those concerned in the management and direction of the prisoners, but to every right thinking and humane mind.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. RYAN.

To Mr. Michael Harold, Fort Carlisle.

CLASSIFICATION of PRISONERS on the Books of Evening School on 30th
December, 1865.

SPIKE ISLAND PRISON. Assistant School- masters' Reports.	READING—				WRITING—continued.			
	First Book,	-	-	-	Large-hand,	-	-	3
	Second Book,	-	-	15	Small-hand,	-	-	204
	Sequel Book,	-	-	17				
	Third Book,	-	-	28	Total,	-	-	207
	Fourth Book,	-	-	53				
	Fifth Book,	-	-	94				
	Total,	-	-	207				
					ARITHMETIC—			
					Simple rules,	-	-	72
WRITING—					Compound rules,	-	-	23
					Proportion, and above,	-	-	113
					Total,	-	-	207
Making letters,				-				

MOUNTJOY
FEMALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Director's
Report.

As stated in the report of last year the increased length of sentences, and the consequent small number of discharges have tended to swell the numbers in this prison; however, the accommodation has been amply sufficient.

The alteration referred to in last annual report by which it was intended to make a marked distinction between the various classes of prisoners has been completed and fully answers its purpose.

The matrons' cottages, built upon the ground adjoining the prison, were completed during the year, and have been for some time occupied; we have no doubt that as the cold wet weather sets in the officers will appreciate more, even than at present, the advantages of living near the prison.

During the year the conduct of the officers has been generally satisfactory. The prisoners have for the most part conducted themselves well and quietly, and have made in many instances great and successful efforts at reformation. There is, however, a class of women among the prisoners who appear so depraved as to be beyond the reach of religious or moral influences, but even some of these have made considerable if not always completely successful efforts to amend.

The produce of the prisoner's labour is shown in the Superintendent's annexed report. Great attention has been paid to induce the prisoners to be industrious, but very many of them being ignorant of needlework their progress has been slow, and the results not as satisfactory as might be expected had they been better taught before conviction.

The Chaplains give in their annexed reports very cheering accounts of the religious and moral condition of the prisoners. The school is carried on in the usual effective manner by Mrs. Dwyer (late Miss Denvir) and her assistants.

No general change of diet has taken place in this prison, and the Medical Officer reports very favourably upon the health of

the prisoners. His observations on the difficulty of managing in a prison rather than a lunatic asylum certain classes of prisoners to whom he refers, are, from his great experience, worthy of the fullest and most serious consideration.

The buildings are all maintained in good order and condition under the care of the Commissioners of Public Works. Only the ordinary repairs were necessary during the year.

The expenses of the prison are given in the Appendix to the annexed report of the Superintendent. They are merely the usual items.

The prisoners were, as in former years, fully impressed with the advantages to be gained by a transfer on licence to the Golden-bridge and Heytesbury-street Convict Refuges. The Directors are year by year more impressed with the great advantages afforded by these institutions which still maintain their high and well deserved reputation.

I. S. WHITTY,
PATRICK JOSEPH MURRAY, } *Directors.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Female Prison,
16th January, 1866.

*Superintendent's
Report.*

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the Mountjoy Female Prison for the year ending the 31st December, 1865.

The conduct of the subordinate officers has been generally satisfactory, except in one instance where the offender was dismissed from the service. One officer in probation was discharged, not being found to possess the necessary qualifications. The Superintendent's clerk, I regret to say, has been obliged to leave in consequence of ill-health. The duties of the subordinate officers have been greatly lightened by the appointment of seven in addition to the previous existing staff, which was found entirely too small for the number of prisoners confined here. The augmentation of the staff, however, by so many new and inexperienced officers in one year, has necessitated increased diligence and closer supervision in order to enforce proper discipline.

No change has been made in either the employment of the prisoners or their general treatment. On the whole their conduct has been satisfactory, but they include some violent and disorderly characters who give continual trouble to those placed over them, and whose example exercises a most pernicious influence upon many who would otherwise be well conducted. Some of them commit offences for the express purpose of being taken to the penal class, where they indulge in the most abominable conversation with their companions, and scream out in language so bad as to be quite demoralizing to the other prisoners; all can hear it in any part of the prison. The screams of these wretched creatures, often kept up for twenty-four hours, excite others, and induce them to commit themselves so as to be sent to the penal class, while many make it a convenient cause for conversation, which the noise enables them to carry on without detection; I would therefore beg leave to suggest that there be punishment cells built altogether apart from the prison, a course which I think would obviate most of the disadvantages to which I have referred.

The school is well conducted, and the school matrons zealous and efficient in the discharge of their duties. As the children in the infant school are

MONTEAGUT FEMALE CONVICT PRISON. very young and the teaching light, requiring but one hour and a-half daily for the teacher, she is able to aid in the adult school, some of the classes in which are very large.

Superintendent's Report. I have to express my deep sense of the loss the establishment will experience in the departure of the Most Rev. Dr. Murray, late the principal Roman Catholic Chaplain. He was singularly qualified for the position he occupied here, both by his thorough comprehension of the responsible duties of the office, and the zeal he felt for the welfare of the prisoners, for whose sake he never spared any exertion it was possible for him to make.

I am happy to add that a spirit of harmonious co-operation prevails amongst the staff, to which in a great measure may be attributed the satisfactory working of the establishment.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

DELLA I. LIDWILL, Superintendent.

I certify that, to the best of my belief, the rules laid down for the government of the prison have been complied with in every instance, except in such cases as have been distinctly reported to or brought under the notice of a Director or the Visiting Inspector.

DELLA I. LIDWILL, Superintendent.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CONVICTS committed and disposed of during the year 1865.

	Adults.	Children.
In custody on the 1st January, 1865, - - - -	104	37
Received during the year, - - - -	98	6
Born in the prison, - - - -	-	9
Total, - - - -	602	52
Discharged on completion of sentence during the year, 45	-	-
" on licence, - - - -	1	-
Sentence commuted, - - - -	1	-
Transferred on licence to Refuges—Protestant, 12;	-	-
Roman Catholic, 30,	62	-
Transferred to lunatic asylum, - - - -	4	-
Died, - - - -	10	-
Children discharged with mothers, - - - -	-	2
" removed by friends, - - - -	-	8
" removed by a lady visitor, - - - -	-	2
" removed to workhouse, - - - -	-	7
" removed with mothers to Roman Catholic	-	-
Refuge, - - - -	-	2
" died, - - - -	-	2
	123	23
Total remaining in custody, 31st December, 1865, - 479		29

AGES ON CONVICTION OF PRISONERS NOW IN CUSTODY.	NUMBER OF PRISONERS NOW IN CUSTODY THAT WERE CONVICTED IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS.
15 years and under 20 years, - 33	Convicted in the year, 1851, - 1
20 " 25 " - 84	" " 1853, - 4
25 " 30 " - 101	" " 1855, - 2
30 " 35 " - 83	" " 1856, - 3
35 " 40 " - 43	" " 1860, - 8
40 " 45 " - 46	" " 1861, - 27
45 years and upwards, - 79	" " 1862, - 73
Total, - - - - 479	" " 1863, - 126
	" " 1864, - 150
Age of youngest prisoner on conviction, 15 years.	" " 1865, - 65
Age of oldest prisoner on conviction, 71 years.	Total, - - - - 479

SENTENCES OF PRISONERS NOW IN CUSTODY.

Transportation, 14 years, -	1	Penal Servitude, 8 years, -	5	MOUNTJOY PRISON. CONVICT PRISON. Superintendent's Report.
" " 15 " -	1	" " 10 " -	30	
Life, -	7	" " 12 " -	1	
Penal Servitude, 3 years, -	71	" " 14 " -	4	
" " 4 " -	57	" " 15 " -	4	
" " 5 " -	166	Life, -	2	
" " 6 " -	14	Total, -	479	
" " 7 " -	118			

CRIMES OF PRISONERS IN CUSTODY.

Administering poison with intent to murder, -	1	Larceny from person, -	53
Assault and robbery, -	6	Larceny and previous convictions for felony, -	57
Assault, -	3	Larceny and receiving stolen goods, -	20
Arson, -	18	Murder, -	8
Attempt at arson, -	3	Manslaughter, -	2
Attempt to steal, -	1	Malicious assault, -	1
Burglary, -	8	Perjury, -	1
Burglary and robbery, -	6	Robbery, -	5
Cattle stealing, -	1	Receiving stolen goods, -	35
Forgery, -	1	Stealing, -	25
Felony, -	77	Subsequent felony, -	52
Felony and former convictions, -	32	Sacrilege, -	1
Forceful robbery, -	1	Sheep stealing, -	1
Having coining tools in possession, -	1	Uttering base coin, -	1
Housebreaking, -	3	Vagrancy, -	3
" " and robbery, -	3	Wounding with intent to murder, -	1
Infanticide, -	1	Total, -	479
Killing Sheep, -	1		
Larceny, -	65		

ESTIMATED VALUE OF PRISONERS' LABOUR for the year ended 31st December, 1865.

How employed.	Average No. of Prisoners employed daily.	Estimated Value of the Work performed.
Sewing and knitting (Prison materials), -	356-061	£ s. d.
Sewing for shops (including 43,622 shirts made), -		236 7 9
Making and repairing matrosses' uniform, -		455 1 2
Washing prison clothing, bedding, &c., -		4 5 0
" for Mountjoy Male Prison, -	29-756	649 12 2
" for Smithfield Prison, -		172 15 7
" for Government Prisons' Office, -		24 14 1
" for some Officers of the Prison, -		8 14 2
Cooking, nursing, cleaning prison, picking flax, in the garden, and maistresses in the schools, for 302 working days, at 8d. per day, -	63-515	17 18 6
Total, -	439-532	639 7 8

Daily average number of prisoners in custody during the year, - 486-545
 Per-centage on prison population working, - 90-298
 " " " in penitentiary, - 2-718
 " " " sick or infirm, - 6-984

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of MOUNTJOY FEMALE PRISON for the Year ended 31st December, 1865.

MOUNTJOY FEMALE PRISON. Superintendent's Report.	Heads of Service.	Amount Paid.		
		£	s.	d.
	Salaries, - - - - -	8,061	8	6
	Rations for Officers, and allowances in lieu thereof, -	344	12	10
	Uniforms for Officers and servants, -	16	11	3
	Victualling prisoners, - - - - -	2,657	10	2
	Clothing, &c., for prisoners, - - - - -	73	5	7
	Bedding for prisoners, - - - - -	8	2	8
	Medicines, Surgical Instruments, &c., - - - - -	109	9	9
	Medical Comforts (extras for the sick), - - - - -	123	18	0
	Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation, - - - - -	124	1	7
	Gratuities to convicts, &c., - - - - -	139	8	10
	Furniture and fittings, - - - - -	22	13	0
	Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c., - - - - -	22	10	8
	Fuel and light, - - - - -	432	16	3
	Buildings and repairs, - - - - -	199	15	8
	Washing and repairs of linen, - - - - -	70	8	10
	Soap, scouring and cleaning articles, - - - - -	52	5	4
	Brushes, brooms, and mops, - - - - -	28	2	0
	Funeral expenses, inquests, &c., - - - - -	7	18	0
	Various small disbursements, - - - - -	81	12	0
	Rent, rates, and taxes, - - - - -	151	16	6
	Total, - - - - -	7,754	5	3

Medical
Officer's
Report.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

37, Fitzwilliam-square, January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—The following details will show the sanitary state of this prison during the past year to have been still more satisfactory than in the preceding year:—

Number of patients in hospital on 1st January, 1865, -	-	32
Number admitted up to 31st December, 1865, -	-	454
Total, - - - - -	-	486
Discharged during the year, - - - - -	-	444
Died, - - - - -	-	10
Remaining in hospital on 31st December, 1865, -	-	32

NUMBER and CAUSES of DEATHS during the year.

Register No.	Initials.	Received in Prison.	Admitted to Hospital.	Date of Death.	Disease.
1251	M. Q.	4 Feb., 1864,	27 Feb., 1865,	1 March, 1865,	Congestion of the brain.
1315	M. H.	30 June, 1864,	19 Aug., 1864,	5 March, 1865,	Intestinal disease.
614	C. C.	7 Oct., 1863,	4 Jan., 1864,	23 March, 1865,	Phtisis.
817	E. R.	23 May, 1861,	11 April, 1865,	15 April, 1865,	Cardiac disease.
842	R. D.	2 Aug., 1861,	8 Feb., 1865,	9 June, 1865,	Chronic diarrhoea and dysentery.
1181	B. M.	2 Sept., 1863,	8 Nov., 1864,	27 June, 1865,	Pulmonary consumption.
880	M. B.	5 Nov., 1861,	30 May, 1865,	15 June, 1865,	Epilepsy and chronic diarrhoea.
1049	C. F.	10 Nov., 1862,	30 June, 1865,	15 Nov., 1865,	Pulmonary consumption.
1347	M. B.	14 Sept., 1864,	25 Sept., 1865,	24 Nov., 1865,	Bronchitis.
1461	J. F.	9 Sept., 1865,	4 Oct., 1865,	12 Dec., 1865,	Congestion of lungs.

Convicts transferred to Dundrum Lunatic Asylum during the year.

Register No.	Initials.	Received in Prison.	Date of conviction.	Where convicted.	Date sent to Asylum.	Mouwsor Female Convict Prison.	Medical Officer's Report.
951	S. C.,	12 Apr., 1862,	4 Apr., 1862,	Naas,	20 Jan., 1863.		
1212	A. J. M'C.,	5 Nov., 1863,	23 Oct., 1863,	Dundalk,	30 June, 1865.		
1177	J. S.,	11 Aug., 1863,	30 July, 1863,	Naas,	21 Nov., 1865.		
1022	M. M.,	7 Oct., 1862,	30 Sep., 1862,	Dublin,	23 Nov., 1865.		

DISEASES of those admitted to Hospital during the year.

Sore legs,	-	-	-	7	Amenorrhœa,	-	-	8
Scrofula,	-	-	-	17	Phthisis,	-	-	13
Bronchitis,	-	-	-	22	Pleurodinia,	-	-	10
Veruio vaginal fistula,	-	-	-	2	Debility,	-	-	19
Icterus,	-	-	-	3	Pleuro pneumonia,	-	-	6
Colic,	-	-	-	36	Ophthalmia,	-	-	9
Observation,	-	-	-	6	Indigestion,	-	-	11
Sore eyes,	-	-	-	5	Syphilis,	-	-	14
Feverish attacks,	-	-	-	39	Hæmorrhoids,	-	-	4
Rheumatism,	-	-	-	18	Fever,	-	-	10
Parturition,	-	-	-	6	Sprains,	-	-	8
Diarrhoea,	-	-	-	36	Scurvy,	-	-	6
Erysipelas,	-	-	-	3	Stricture of rectum,	-	-	2
Bilious attacks,	-	-	-	23	Chlorosis,	-	-	4
Sore throats,	-	-	-	17	Hæmoptysis,	-	-	13
Epilepsy,	-	-	-	7	Gonorrhœa,	-	-	14
Abscess,	-	-	-	5	Hysteria,	-	-	7
Palpitation,	-	-	-	5	Lambago,	-	-	4
Accidental injuries,	-	-	-	6	Ulcers,	-	-	9
Gastrodynia,	-	-	-	16				
Burns,	-	-	-	5	Total,	-	-	454

There are very few subjects connected with my department to which I think it necessary to draw your attention. The position and construction of the punishment cells are, in my opinion, quite unsuited to the purpose sought to be gained. The voices of the prisoners from cell to cell can be so easily heard, that they can and do converse freely with each other; and this to some of them is a source more of enjoyment than of punishment. The sewage and ventilation of these cells also are defective. It often happens that prisoners who, owing to physical weakness or other causes, cannot with safety be long continued on punishment diet, are detained in these cells, from their continued bad and outrageous conduct rendering it impossible to send them back to their classes. This might be done for an indefinite period were a suitable range of punishment cells erected. They are daily visited by me, and the effects of punishment diet are anxiously watched, and when considered advisable that the sentence, on medical grounds, should be modified or shortened, a report to that effect is made in each case. Under these precautions I am not aware that any permanent injury has resulted to a prisoner from being placed in punishment. It will be seen by the foregoing tables that four convicts were sent to the Criminal Lunatic Asylum during the year. In the majority of these cases symptoms of unsoundness of mind or of eccentricity were observed from their reception in the prison; and the same may be said of seven or eight others still remaining in the prison, some of whom are fit subjects for transfer to the asylum, and will be sent, but others (three or four in number) scarcely so, being of weak mind, but not what is commonly considered insane. Dr. Nugent, Inspector of Lunatics, was kind enough to examine these prisoners on two occasions, and coincides with me in this opinion, and also that it might be well to suggest for His Excellency's consideration whether some of them might not be sent with advantage to their homes or to the poorhouses of their districts, their presence in the

**Mountjoy
Female
Convict
Prison.**

*Medical
Officer's
Report.*

prison tending to the disturbance of discipline from their frequent breaches of the rules, punishment having no effect, and their fitness for it being more than doubtful. We have happily been free from any epidemic during the year, and although the amount of illness was considerable, the mortality is much under that of the previous year. Having in my previous reports stated my views on other important matters connected with the state of the prison, it is not now necessary that I should further allude to them. I have every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which the officers connected with the hospital have performed their duties.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

AWLEY BAXON.

The Directors of Government Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

*Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.*

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

35, Nelson-street, March, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have nothing to add to that which I have already furnished in the way of detail as to my duties, and the discharge of these at the Mountjoy Female Prison.

Everything is going on satisfactorily there and at the Refuge in Heytesbury-street as usual.

I am your obedient servant,

DAVID STUART, Protestant Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

*Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.*

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.*

Mountjoy Female Prison,
January 1, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—In presenting my report for the past year I take leave to congratulate you on the state of this prison. It is quiet; hardly a murmur within its walls. It affords daily gratifying evidence of the peaceful character of its government. In its various departments irregularity is not observable, owing to the zeal of the Superintendent, to the attention of the officers, and to your care and vigilance. In the performance of duty no one here impedes another; each officer fills a distinct place, and the utmost harmony prevails. The duties performed are, indeed, for the benefit of the prisoners. The severity of their condition is intended also for their good. The hard labour they submit to, and the entire obedience they render, are parts in the system established for their reformation. In ministering to their spiritual wants I have ever experienced happiness, but regret extremely that impaired health prevented me for a time doing all my heart would dictate. I have, however, consolation in assuring you that my duties in addition to his own were performed by the kind and universally esteemed Dr. Murray, whose loss to this prison, by his promotion to the office of bishop, will be felt by officers and prisoners during their recollection of him.

I am, Gentlemen, with great respect, your very faithful servant,

LUKE DEMPSEY, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

* Owing to the absence in Rome of the senior Roman Catholic Chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Mathy, no report was written by him.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

MOUNTJOY
FEMALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

Dublin, Mountjoy Female Convict Prison.

GENTLEMEN,—No important change has taken place in my engagements as Presbyterian Chaplain of this prison, nor in the numbers or condition of the prisoners under my care. I continue to receive the most cordial co-operation of all the officers, and have the utmost facility from all connected with the prison for the discharge of my duties. With such occasional exceptions as must always be expected in a prison, I have had little difficulty with the prisoners under my charge. One of the women sent to the Refuge during the year, I regret to say, it was found necessary to send back, owing to violence of temper; but the rest have given, and continue to give, satisfaction there. I have pleasure in recording the case of two sisters committed and liberated together, one of them the mother of a family. On their liberation they took the children from the union workhouse, went to a new locality, where work could be had in a factory, put themselves under the care of an excellent clergyman, who at once introduced the children to a Sunday-school, and who continues to give me the most gratifying accounts of their industrious habits and desire to recover a place in society.

My services (unless when special and additional visitation is required) consist of Divine worship with preaching on the Sabbath morning, and weekly religious instruction on catechism and Holy Scripture, with such advice to the prisoners individually as their circumstances seem to require.

I am, Gentlemen, with much respect, your obedient servant,

J. HALL, *n.d.*, Presbyterian Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

SCHOOLMISTRESS'S REPORT.

School-
mistress's
Report.

Mountjoy Female Prison,
January 15, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Mountjoy Female Prison School for the year ended 31st December, 1865.

The system of instruction pursued in former years, with success, has been carried out with equally satisfactory results during the year just closed.

The number of prisoners admitted during the year was 98, and the daily average attendance was about 400.

To enable the prisoners to read their book of prayer, to write a letter, and to keep simple accounts, is all we can hope to accomplish, having regard to the large number to be taught, and the short time each prisoner attends school, viz., one hour daily. I am glad to be able to report that the progress of nearly all in these three subjects was very considerable during the year. Geography, a subject in which prisoners always take a lively interest, is also taught, and their proficiency in this useful branch of knowledge was very satisfactory.

From the other teachers I have at all times received zealous, cordial, and efficient co-operation. They spared no pains in promoting the mental and moral improvement of the prisoners. The teachers, however, no matter how zealous and efficient, can do but little if the co-operation of the prisoners in their own improvement be not secured. The teacher in

MOUNTJOY
FEMALE
CONVICT
PRISON.

School-
mistress's
Report.

so large a school can do little else than direct, control, or stimulate. Hence it is that my first and chief object has ever been to induce the prisoners, by every means in my power, to avail themselves of the opportunities so liberally afforded them of improving their minds, and acquiring that knowledge which, if rightly used, may prove useful to them in after-life.

Crime, like other evils, has its causes. Ignorance is a cause of crime, and it is with the removal, while in prison, of this obstacle to the upward progress of the prisoners that I have chiefly to deal. One fact will, I think, prove the success of my efforts in this respect. There are at present in this prison about 200 prisoners who, on admission, were wholly illiterate. The greater number of these can now read and write fairly. They also possess a considerable amount of general information.

This is satisfactory considering the antecedents of all, and the advanced ages of many of these prisoners.

The National Board Inspector, F. P. O'Carroll, esq., examined as usual, and expressed himself satisfied with the arrangements of the school and the progress of the prisoners in the subjects in which he examined. But much useful instruction, suited to the peculiar requirements of prisoners, and which cannot be properly estimated by any standard of examination, is imparted to the prisoners in this prison. The necessity and advantage of obedience to superiors, of conformity to the rules of the prison, and of steady and persevering industry, are frequently impressed upon their minds. I believe I am justified in stating that the influence of such instruction is felt in other departments of the prison.

I am happy to have to report that the conduct of the prisoners during the year has, with few exceptions, been most satisfactory. They have been attentive in school, and appeared grateful for the instruction they received. They have also been most respectful to the teachers, who always treat them with kindness and forbearance, without, at the same time, overlooking any deliberate violation of rule or misconduct of any kind.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my best thanks to all the officers of the prison for their courtesy to me personally, and for the facilities they have invariably afforded me on every occasion when the discharge of my duties brought me in contact with them.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

MARY DWYER, Head Schoolmistress.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.—
Directors' Report.

These institutions continue to produce their usual satisfactory results, and there is nothing of any special importance relating to them to report.

The prisoners have been with scarcely any exception industrious, amenable, and orderly; their improvement at their trades was all that could be desired.

The Chaplains report very favourably of their attention to religious instruction, and to their religious duties. Their attention in school, and their anxiety to improve were highly satisfactory.

Dr. Quinlan, the Medical Officer, has attended carefully to the health of the prisoners, and his annexed report is satisfactory.

Mr. Bradfield, the Superintendent of the Smithfield and Lusk Prisons, in his annexed report gives a favourable account of both; discipline has been well maintained, and the conduct of the subordinate officers was satisfactory.

Mr. Organ, the Lecturer at Smithfield and Lusk, and Inspector of released convicts in the Dublin district, has discharged his duties most efficiently during the year. His annexed reports as lecturer and as inspector furnish a very excellent detail of his duties, and of the manner in which they are discharged, and the results are certainly most encouraging. During the prevalence of the Fenian excitement the Directors, knowing that large numbers of released convicts were employed in and about Dublin, watched with great anxiety for any indication as to the men having become tainted with Fenianism. After every possible inquiry upon their own part, and every personal investigation by Mr. Organ, they are enabled to state that they can find no proof, and they believe there exists no suspicion that any released convict in the Dublin district was, or is, connected with any illegal society. Whether this is the result of training, or the knowledge which the men had gained of the profit and loss of crime, the Directors cannot say; possibly, however, this satisfactory state of things is mainly attributable to the honest modes of livelihood which Mr. Organ has procured for them, coupled with his unflinching supervision.

Mr. Dwyer, the Registrar, who acts also as schoolmaster, continues to deserve the opinion expressed of him in former reports.

At the prison farm at Lusk, Principal Warder Gunning still superintends the discipline; and the agricultural work is carried on under the care of Mr. Gallagher, the Superintendent of Drainage. The school instruction is attended to by Mr. Daly. Satisfactory progress has been made in all the departments, and the conduct of the prisoners has been most commendable.

The buildings are in good order and required but little repair during the year.

The expenses have been only those actually necessary, and are detailed in the annexed report of the Superintendent.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERM-
EDIATE
PRISONS.
—
Directors'
Report.

In the month of September last Mr. M. D. Hill revisited the Smithfield and Lusk Prisons for the third time. His first visit was in 1857; his second visit was in 1861. Having been a close observer of the Irish Convict System from the commencement, Mr. Hill was struck with the evident advantages of the intermediate stage, and he has on each occasion examined for himself into the details, and has, to satisfy himself on all points, personally visited various persons through Dublin who have employed released convicts. The results of his inquiries on each occasion is made known to the public, and, in the printed account of his visit in 1865, he states himself to be more than ever fully and completely satisfied. The Directors do not consider themselves justified in passing by without a record, this most valuable evidence upon the Irish Convict System from so eminent an authority on prison management as Mr. Hill.

I. S. WHITTY,
PATRICK JOSEPH MURRAY, } *Directors.*

Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Smithfield Prison,
February 2, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have, in my brief report for the year 1865 only to repeat what I have now for several years been happy to state. The services of the Church have been regularly performed, and the prisoners have been lectured or visited during the week. I owe it to the Rev. Mr. Jordan, whom the Directors kindly allowed me to name as my assistant, to state that his attention, perseverance, and feeling manner of instructing the prisoners cannot be surpassed. I have every reason to believe that the education of the prisoners and the preparation for the honest performance of the duties of active life in the world, secured for them in the prison, whether in a religious or secular point of view are as perfect as they can be made. I am confident that many of those who passed through the prison during the last year will, by the course of their after life, reflect credit on the system under which they have been trained.

My colleague and myself continue to receive from Mr. Bradfield, the active Superintendent of the prison, and from all the officers, the utmost co-operation and attention.

I remain, Gentlemen, with great respect,

Yours faithfully and obediently,

GEORGE B. WHEELER, A.M.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons.

Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

St. Paul's, Arran-quay,
10th January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—My report this year varies little from my reports of former years. Nothing was omitted in the administration of the sacraments or instructions suitable to the prisoners. Their demeanour during instruction was respectful and most attentive, and it is a pleasure to me

to report that they availed themselves more frequently than heretofore of the opportunity afforded them of receiving the sacraments of penance and the Eucharist.

I regret to say there were some exceptions, and these exceptions were of such a character as to exercise a powerful and baneful influence over their fellow-prisoners; because they were generally superior to their companions in manner, information, or some other quality which men either fear or respect, and therefore very effective in inducing others to follow their example.

These prisoners have left the prison without leaving behind them, in my mind, any security for their future honesty and safe conduct. They neglected, while in prison, to apply the means, destined by God, to effect the amendment of their lives.

Secular knowledge and prison discipline alone will never transform the burglar, the thief, or the pickpocket, into a good and honest member of society. It is impossible to reform our lives unless we obey the laws of our religion, which changes the heart and guides and purifies the actions of men.

With the laws of their religion they have not complied, and consequently, I have only a faint hope that they will not fall back into their former crimes and vicious habits. It is a consolation, however, to know that the number of this deplorable class is small indeed, and that the vast majority seek the consolations of religion in undergoing the just punishment their crimes deserve, for which they long to make atonement and to repair by the amendment of their lives.

Under this conviction I would suggest to your consideration separate chapels for the members of different creeds, for religion being the foundation of all reformation which vivifies and directs every other human policy adopted to reform the criminal, consequently, the dignity and solemnity of religion should be first and above all provided. Among the officials there was peace and harmony. I have nothing to censure in their relations with me; on the contrary everything to praise.

I cannot close this report without tendering to you, gentlemen, my sincere thanks for the kindness you invariably manifested towards me, and I only regret that the relation which existed between us is about to cease, as my ecclesiastical superior has removed me to another field for my labours. Again I thank you, and

Believe me to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN O'HANLON, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUCK
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.

Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

37, Montpelier-hill, Dublin,
January, 1866.

Presby-
terian
Chaplain's
Report.

GENTLEMEN,—In submitting my report on the Smithfield Intermediate Prison for the year 1865, it gives me much pleasure to repeat the testimony which I have heretofore been enabled to give of the prosperous state of the institution. Discipline is effectively observed, yet severity is scarcely ever demanded. The prisoners are, generally, well-conducted, respectful, and industrious; and it is gratifying to note their gratitude for whatever attention can be paid to them consistently with prison regulations.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERNE-
DIATE
PRISONS.*Prison-
tion
Chaplain's
Report.*

The prisoners under my care are, I am bold to say, a fair specimen of the utility of the system at present in operation. There is not one of them who is not improved in every sense since he had the misfortune to make himself amenable to justice. To provide for the advancing intelligence of several is no trifling tax upon the labours of the Chaplains. The anxiety to receive instruction is so great that, although my brother Chaplain and I address the same men every Sabbath, they have expressed a desire that the religious exercises, especially in exposition of the Scriptures, should be protracted beyond the time at present allotted to them. The class at present is composed of persons of considerable abilities. The most of the men composing it are of intelligence above mediocrity; some are well educated: perhaps it may not be out of place if I state—it may be gratifying to the friends of reformatory prison discipline—that one young man, whose period of punishment is drawing to a close, is so thoroughly reformed, that every spare moment from the work assigned him, is employed in preparation to enter college, that he may devote his future life to the Christian ministry. Thus one wild and wayward youth shall be restored to himself, to his respectable family, and to his proper status in social life; and no doubt, profiting by experience, he peculiarly qualified to promote the interests of godliness and morality.

It is not necessary to add, what is so evident to all concerned, that all the officers are attentive and diligent. From the excellent Superintendent to the humblest official I have received every assistance they could give me, and that with a cheerfulness very gratifying indeed.

I am, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

S. G. MONROSE, Chaplain of Smithfield Prison.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

*Medical
Officer's
Report.*

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

5, Cavendish-row, Dublin,
January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to submit the usual annual report of the sanitary condition of Smithfield and Lusk Government Prisons, during the past year.

During that period 87 prisoners were admitted into hospital suffering from the following diseases:—

	Smithfield.	Lusk.
Bronchitis, - - - - -	17	2
Diarrhoea, - - - - -	11	2
Dyspepsia, - - - - -	4	1
Fractures and other accidental injuries, - - - - -	3	2
Influenza and feverish colds, - - - - -	13	7
Inflammation of the brain, - - - - -	1	-
" the ear, - - - - -	1	-
Pleurisy, - - - - -	1	-
Pneumonia, - - - - -	3	3
Pulmonary consumption, - - - - -	1	-
Rheumatism, - - - - -	3	4
Secondary syphilis, - - - - -	-	1
Scrofula, - - - - -	2	-
Skin disease, - - - - -	-	1
Stricture of the urethra, - - - - -	1	-
Ulcers, - - - - -	-	1
White swelling of the knee, - - - - -	1	1
	<u>62</u>	<u>25</u>
Total, - - - - -	87	

It will thus be seen that the number of prisoners admitted into hospital during the past year was less by 40 than the number admitted during the preceding year, which amounted to 137. Two deaths occurred among these patients, viz., (2094) P. W., aged 19, who died of pneumonia, 1st February, and (3148) G. R., aged 47, who died of bronchitis, 17th February. The rest of those patients were discharged from hospital cured, or as much relieved as the nature of their respective cases allowed.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTER-
MEDIATE
PRISONS.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

During the year I recommended some alterations in the dietary which, without any appreciable extra expense, have contributed much to the health of the prisoners. I have frequently inspected the food supplied both at Smithfield and at Lusk and found it of excellent quality.

In addition to the usual monthly inspections, I have from time to time examined the cells, workshops, clothing, and bedding of the prisoners. I have always found these particulars carefully attended to by Mr. Bradfield and the other officers, by whom the prison has been kept in the neatest and best order. This observation also applies to Lusk.

During the past year we lost, by his lamented death, the services of our respected Apothecary, the late Mr. Pakenham. His place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. E. P. B. Ward, who has discharged his duties in the most efficient and satisfactory manner.

Much inconvenience and loss in washing and cooking had been experienced at Lusk from occasional deficiency of soft water, there not being any adequate means of storing the abundant supply derivable from the rainfall on the roofs of the buildings. This has been remedied by the construction of two spacious underground covered cisterns. These cisterns, which are built of solid masonry, are capable of receiving many thousand gallons of rain-water; and of keeping it cool, pure, and clean. The water is drawn by pumping according as required.

A large open shed has been constructed in a sheltered portion of the farmyard at Lusk, in which the prisoners are employed, upon days too inclement for field labour, in breaking the large quantity of stone required for the filling of drains and the metalling of farm roads. They are thus engaged in useful open-air and healthy work upon days on which they could not work in the fields without much hardship and consequent sickness.

As we had no proper means of disposing of the night-soil at Lusk, a good deal of inconvenience began to be experienced from the accumulation of it. By desire of Captain Whitty, Director of Government Prisons, a number of closets were constructed upon the plan of the Rev. H. Maule, by which the nightsoil is dried and deodorized by the coal ashes from the prison fires. These closets have proved a complete success; and yield a large quantity of manure rich in carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, and other useful elementary principles. This manure is applicable to many of the ordinary purposes of guano, and is extensively employed upon the farm under the direction of the efficient Agriculturist, Mr. Gallagher. All these changes and some other minor ones have been effected by the prisoners under the superintendence of the trade warders.

By far the most gratifying improvement has been the refitting of the Smithfield hospital, which although spacious and well ventilated was not as suitable for the sick as could be desired. It is now being completely refitted and furnished; and in a short time will be fully equal to the best arranged clinical hospitals of Dublin. With a few unimportant exceptions, this refitting and furnishing are being accomplished, as at Lusk, by prison labour.

Although feeling that the improvement of the hospital was indispensable, I was not without fear lest the increase of comfort to the sick might be attended by a corresponding increase in the number of applicants for

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.

Medical
Officer's
Report.

admission. Such, however, has not been the case. The consideration shown for their condition has had the best moral effect upon the prisoners, and the average number of patients in the improved hospital is not quite half what it used to be—and all these cases of evident unmistakable illness. In fact I have not, for many months, observed, at either Smithfield or Lusk, the slightest attempt at malingering. There is, upon the whole, a great improvement in the bearing and general *morale* of the prisoners; and I have little doubt that the great majority of them will be absorbed into the industrious working community.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

F. B. QUINLAN, M.D., Z.C.D., Medical Superintendent.

To the Directors of Government Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Smithfield Intermediate Prison,
January 10, 1866.

Superinten-
dent's
Report.

GENTLEMEN,—At the close of another year I have the honour of submitting to you the usual report with statistics of this prison, including the Lusk branch.

The treatment and discipline of the prisoners have been precisely the same as during all previous years, since this and Lusk were opened as intermediate prisons.

The conduct of the prisoners has been in general satisfactory, only seven breaches of discipline having occurred; one of which was by the messenger when out on duty having attempted to introduce a prohibited article into the prison. With this solitary exception, the prisoners selected from time to time as messengers have invariably fulfilled their duties faithfully.

The prisoners have been employed as during previous years; viz., tradesmen at their respective trades here, and labourers at the gardens of the Mountjoy prisons, and on the farm at Lusk; and it will be seen by the return annexed to this report, that the earnings are very fair, considering that many of those employed at trades here were not very proficient as such, having only learned in prison, and previous to being convicted never having worked at trades, or probably any other employment. Many were also detained here being a little handy at some trades, as they were not competent to perform continuous manual labour on the farm at Lusk. These were very useful here, but being unskilled, their labour did not realize much profit.

The labourers have been employed on the farm at Lusk, as during previous years, at general agricultural work, and draining, subsoiling, and reclaiming the commons, the whole of which is nearly drained, and during the present year the entire will be under cultivation. Large crops, both green and white, have been raised and secured in good condition.

I visited this prison and farm works occasionally, and always furnished you with a report thereon.

The conduct of the subordinate officers has been in general satisfactory, save in two instances, where, through negligence, prisoners were permitted to escape, of which I shall speak more fully hereafter.

The buildings of this prison continue in tolerably good repair, and there was no considerable outlay on them during the year.

The buildings at Lusk continue in good order. The moveable iron-house noticed by me in last year's report, is now completed; and thus affords ample storage for grain and other agricultural produce.

The stone-breaking shed not having been found large enough to accommodate the increased number of prisoners, an addition was made to it during the past year, and thus sufficient accommodation is afforded for all the prisoners to work at breaking stones in bad weather when they cannot be employed at agriculture.

I regret to have to report that seven prisoners absconded during the year, viz., four from Lusk and three from this prison. Of the four who absconded from Lusk, three were retaken; and only in one instance was negligence brought home to an officer who allowed some hours to elapse before he noticed the prisoner's absence, for which offence he was reduced in rank.

Of the three who escaped from this prison, one of them eloped from the charge of an officer while being escorted by him from this to the Mountjoy prison. The other two escaped on the night of the 16th of March last, through the negligence of the night-watchman, who left a gate open through which they passed out. This officer was also reduced in rank and fined.

The last two mentioned prisoners were not retaken.

During the past year the numbers in this prison (including the Lusk branch) have been greater than in 1864, while that year showed an increase upon the numbers in preceding years.

The greater length of the sentences now passed will of course tend to keep down our numbers for a year or two, as each man will have a longer term to serve before he will become eligible for this intermediate prison, but afterwards our average numbers will be again augmented, as the increased length of their sentences will cause the men to remain here much longer than hitherto.

I request attention to the fact that the order and regularity of these establishments have never been better preserved than during the past year, a fact which reflects credit on the officers with the two exceptional cases hereinbefore mentioned.

I feel pleasure in bearing testimony to the kind co-operation I have invariably received from the principal officers of both establishments, and the harmony and good will that exists amongst them.

I certify that the rules laid down for the government of these establishments have been complied with, except in such cases as have been brought under the notice of the Directors.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. BRADFELD, Superintendent.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

STATEMENT of the Number of Convicts in custody, committed, and disposed of, for one year, ending 31st December, 1865.

In custody, 1st January, 1865,	-	-	-	93
Received from Spike Island Prison,	-	-	-	209
Received from Mountjoy Male Prison,	-	-	-	14
				223
	Total,	-	-	316
How disposed of:—				
Released on orders of license,	-	-	-	186
Removed to Mountjoy Male Prison,	-	-	-	7
Escapes,	-	-	-	6
Died,	-	-	-	2
				201
In custody, 1st January, 1866,	-	-	-	115
				2

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LASK
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.

Superinten-
dent's
Report.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LESLIE
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.
—
Superin-
tendents'
Report.

AGES on Reception of the Prisoners received during the year.

18 years and under 20 years,	-	-	8
20 " " 30 "	-	-	144
30 " " 40 "	-	-	48
40 " " 50 "	-	-	12
50 " " 60 "	-	-	8
Above 60 years,	-	-	3
Total,	-	-	223

SENTENCES of the Prisoners received during the year.

3 years' penal servitude,	-	-	93
4 " "	-	-	69
5 " "	-	-	22
6 " "	-	-	8
7 " "	-	-	17
8 " "	-	-	1
10 " "	-	-	11
Total,	-	-	223

CRIMES of the Prisoners received during the year.

Arson,	-	-	-	32
Assault,	-	-	-	1
" grievous,	-	-	-	9
" malicious,	-	-	-	1
" and robbery,	-	-	-	1
Burglary,	-	-	-	18
" and felony,	-	-	-	5
" and larceny,	-	-	-	4
" and robbery,	-	-	-	9
Cattle stealing,	-	-	-	3
Cow stealing,	-	-	-	5
Casting and wounding,	-	-	-	1
Embezzlement,	-	-	-	1
Felony,	-	-	-	4
Felocious assault,	-	-	-	3
Felocious obstruction of railway,	-	-	-	1
Highway robbery,	-	-	-	6
Housebreaking,	-	-	-	3
" and larceny,	-	-	-	2
" and robbery,	-	-	-	1
House robbery,	-	-	-	1
Intent to break into a certain house,	-	-	-	1
Larceny,	-	-	-	29
" and former conviction,	-	-	-	14
" from the person,	-	-	-	13
" and receiving,	-	-	-	2
Manslaughter,	-	-	-	5
Military offences,	-	-	-	9
Out at night with implements intending to commit felony,	-	-	-	1
Perjury,	-	-	-	1
Receiving stolen goods,	-	-	-	8
" " and felony,	-	-	-	1
" " and previous conviction,	-	-	-	1
Rape,	-	-	-	2
Robbery,	-	-	-	2
" from the person,	-	-	-	2
" of post letter,	-	-	-	1
Sheep stealing,	-	-	-	17
Subsequent felony,	-	-	-	5
Uttering base coin,	-	-	-	3
Wilfully and maliciously wounding,	-	-	-	4
Writing a threatening letter,	-	-	-	1

Account showing the value of Productive Labour of Prisoners for the year ending 31st December, 1865.

SMITHFIELD AND LASK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Trade.	Amount.	Observations.
	£ s. d.	
Tailoring, - - -	145 1 1	Daily average number at Smithfield, 50 Do. do., Lusk, - 50 Total, - - - 100 Less sick, - - - 5 Daily average number of effective prisoners, - - - 100
Shoemaking, - - -	77 12 2	
Carpentry and coopers, - - -	41 3 6	
Blacksmiths and nailers, - - -	43 13 11	
Tinsmiths, - - -	11 11 10	
Matmaking, - - -	11 15 10	
Netmaking, - - -	10 7 8	
	342 6 0	
Twenty-two prisoners, viz., labourers at the Mountjoy Prisons, fatigue work in this prison, cooking, messing, cleaning prison, whitewashing, pumping water, picking fibre, &c., fifty-two weeks, at 9s. per week, - - -	514 10 0	Average earnings of each effective prisoner, £21 8s. 9d.:
Fifty-five labourers on the farm at Lusk at general farm work, draining, subsoiling, &c., fifty-two weeks, at 9s. per week, - - -	1,287 0 0	
Total, - - -	2,144 2 0	

Superintendent's Report.

STATEMENT of the Expenditure of Smithfield and Lusk Prisons for the year ending 31st December, 1865.

Heads of Service.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Salaries, - - -	1,497 11 8
Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof, - - -	79 12 3
Uniforms for officers and servants, - - -	11 13 0
Victualling prisoners, - - -	683 3 6
Clothing, &c., for prisoners, - - -	49 11 6
Bedding for prisoners, - - -	2 17 0
Medicines, surgical instruments, &c., - - -	30 0 2
Medical comforts (extras for the sick), - - -	19 16 5
Furniture and fittings, - - -	8 12 1
Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c., - - -	5 5 2
Fuel and light, - - -	49 4 0
Buildings and repairs, - - -	116 8 5
Washing and repairs of linen, - - -	2 7 0
Soap, scouring and cleaning articles, - - -	9 3 9
Brushes, brooms, and mops, - - -	0 6 9
Funeral expenses, inquests, &c., - - -	0 17 0
Various small disbursements, - - -	159 12 8
Rent, rates, and taxes, - - -	78 4 4
Expense of the conveyance of convicts, - - -	40 9 8
Total payments, - - -	2,834 18 4

In addition to these payments the following items have been, for the convenience of the service, paid from this establishment, through which the great majority of the convicts are discharged:—

Gratuities of convicts, earned in the Convict Prisons during the whole period of their sentences, - - -	£958 8 2
Clothing on discharge, and travelling expenses of convicts to their homes, - - -	149 15 2
Total, - - -	£1,108 3 4
	R 2

LECTURER'S REPORT.

Smithfield Intermediate Prison,
January 1, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my ninth annual report upon the Smithfield Intermediate Prison.

It is my pleasing duty to say that the system during the past year has been eminently successful, notwithstanding the dangerous difficulties with which many of the released men had to contend, and the temptations they had to resist, owing to the unhappy and disturbed state of the country.

Criminals of the worst type continue to pass through this prison, but judging from results, I may safely say many a bad and vicious man has left it wiser and better than when he entered, fully convinced that crime is man's worst enemy.

Failures have occurred, and occur they must, but I hold they have been so few, and in the majority of instances so very trifling, that I do not think the success of the system, on the whole, has been affected by them, as will be seen in my report for this year as Inspector of Released Convicts in the Dublin district.

The intermediate prison system is peculiar and interesting in every feature, viewed as it may be. A natural simplicity pervades the whole of its workings, and stamps itself upon its every phase. Taking, for instance, the course of industrial training carried on in Smithfield, we find it most useful, enabling as it does many a once idle and vicious criminal to earn an honest livelihood in after years.

In the educational department my lectures form the most important feature, and continue to be attended with very cheering results, whether as regards the conduct of the men at home or the success which has attended the honest and manly efforts of those elsewhere. The subjects upon which I address the men are very varied, but I hope always useful, as with prisoners especially monotony and repetition must be avoided if their attention is to be secured or their interest excited. I speak to them in language so simple as to be understood by the most illiterate of my audience, and harkened to by every man listening to me. The subjects are selected in many instances from the works of the Great Author of Nature. The men are told something interesting of the sun, moon, and stars; of the earth, its animals, plants, and minerals; of the ocean, and of things in it; nor do I omit addressing them on common things and subjects of a social nature, a knowledge of which is indispensable to their after well-being. In fine, every effort is devoted to their good. I endeavour to impress upon them, above all, the providence and the power, the wisdom and the mercy of the God whose laws they outraged, and whose attributes, if they ever knew them, they had forgotten. The exercises as carried on once a week in practical seamanship are productive of very good results in enabling very many of the men to get to sea after discharge. The fine model of a full-rigged ship suspended in the lecture-room is an object of great interest to the men, who, at the specified hour, cheer up and are glad as she is lowered to her place each Friday evening. There are many curious and pleasant associations connected with the craft "Francois Brennan," and many amusing allusions made to her in letters from those whom she enabled to brave the perils of the sea in search of new friends and happy homes.

The interest the men take in my discourses is evidenced by the competitive examinations that take place each Saturday evening—a feature in their training which has elicited the praise of good and great men who from time to time have sat to listen to questions put and answered in a

manner that fully and satisfactorily proved that the clouds of ignorance were being dispelled, its evils removed, and hearts heretofore callous and indifferent were yielding to the influences of reformatory teachings.

The intellectual attainments of the men cannot be estimated by any ordinary educational standard; their acquirements upon discharge are in every way peculiar, and indeed in most instances creditable. As a class they are in no way inferior in intelligence and worldly knowledge to the great mass of the labouring poor. Much has been done for these men at the expense both of anxiety and mental and physical toil; but all this, in a great measure, has been rewarded by their after good conduct and sober and industrious habits. To any man filling the position which I do in relation to these men, a knowledge of the habits, customs, and manners of the lower classes of society is most necessary, as it is important to know the prejudices and prejudices of the criminal sections of the community. Happily for the men, and for myself too, I have devoted nearly my whole lifetime to the service of the lowly and the lost ones; therefore when I speak to them of the cause and effects of their crimes, they listen to me with silent and respectful attention.

The moral tone of the men is unexceptional, and the kindly feeling which they manifest to one another is most gratifying. The moral character of the vast majority of those who have left Smithfield and reside in the Dublin district is such as would do credit to any training institution of the country. This statement may appear strange, but it is nevertheless true. Night and day I move amongst them, in sickness and in health, in want and in comfort, when despondent and when hopeful, when spurned and when encouraged—in fine, in every vicissitude of life; I know the released convict as he struggles to redeem the character that he had lost; therefore when I speak of or about the men of this prison, I speak with an experience which should give some weight to my remarks.

In men once selfish and depraved, and dead to the gentle and generous impulses of the heart, it is most gratifying to observe, as the period of their time in Smithfield lengthens, those kinder feelings of their nature develop themselves, and prove to the reflecting mind that there exists in the breast of even the worst criminal materials for amendment.

During the past year I have accompanied some distinguished foreigners in visiting the homes and employers of some released prisoners, and the impressions made upon them by these visits are, to use their own words, "never to be forgotten." Many of the men are now employers themselves; and at the time I write one of the worst convicts Dublin ever saw has applied to a Smithfield man for employment, and, as a guarantee for his future good conduct, deposited with him £2 of his gratuity; and what is still perhaps more interesting, the wife of this employer has been twice a convict. I took man and wife under my care; I succeeded in establishing a home and a position for both. She washes and he makes clothes.

To know, gentlemen, what the Irish Intermediate Prison system has done for the friendless and the erring, we must make ourselves acquainted with the past and present history of those who have come within its influence. The men continue their voluntary weekly contributions of one halfpenny each to the library fund, from which books of an instructive and interesting character are purchased for their use during the intermitting hours of labour, and it is most gratifying to see what a deep interest they take in the perusal of those books, and the many extracts they copy from them into their note-books, which they bring with them to foreign lands after discharge. The note-books are much prized by their owners; they contain passages from my lectures, and many wise sayings of wise and good men.

SMITHFIELD AND
LISK
INTERMEDIATE
PRISONS.

*Lecturer's
Report.*

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.

*Lecturer's
Report.*

I have heretofore and repeatedly entered into the details of the Irish Intermediate system, and explained in many former reports every feature in it; therefore it is not necessary to do so now. The few observations contained in the present brief report are in my mind sufficient in themselves to show that the system is still in a state of lively and cheering vigour, and that while it is properly supported and zealously carried out, it will still continue, under the blessing of Heaven, to shed happy and hopeful results amongst the wretched and the unfortunate brought within its influence, irrespective of creed or country.

Before concluding my remarks upon Smithfield, I wish to tender to you, gentlemen, my best and grateful thanks for the kind, considerate, and courteous manner in which you have at all times received me when official business obliged me to wait upon you. I have also to record my thanks to Mr. Bradfield and his colleague, Mr. Dwyer, for their steady co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JAMES P. ORRAN.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

LUSK PRISON.

*Protestant
Chaplain's
Report.*

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Tynan Rectory, January 27, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have every reason to hope that the Protestant convicts who have passed through Lusk prison during the last year have resumed their liberty in a condition and with feelings calculated to render them better members of society than they had previously been. Many of them, in the discipline of their correction, have learned that the violation of human laws is not only accompanied by pain and sorrow, but renders them liable to the displeasure of the Supreme Judge, and, from the best and highest motives, have resolved to go and sin no more. The gradual amelioration of their condition as prisoners, the good temper with which their chastisement has been administered, the care bestowed upon their mental improvement, and the habit of regular attendance upon the Divine ordinances, with the religious instruction which they have periodically received, have told well upon their dispositions and character, and have left an impress for good which time is not likely to obliterate; and I am greatly mistaken if the pang which they feel upon a recollection of the past is not mitigated by a consciousness of moral and religious improvement.

In retiring from my chaplaincy, I feel it my duty to record my conviction of the excellence of the system pursued in the convict station with which I have for some years been connected, as approaching very nearly to the perfection of a human institution; and to express my obligations, not only to my official superiors, but to my fellow-labourers upon the spot, and especially to the Chief Warder, whose unwearied attention to the discharge of his duty always commanded my admiration, as much as his goodness won my esteem.

WILLIAM REEVES, D.D., lately Vicar of Lusk.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

August 7, 1866.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERMEDIATE
PRISONS.Roman
Catholic
Chaplain's
Report.

GENTLEMEN,—In presenting my annual report of the Lusk Prison, I have great pleasure in saying that the most admirable and good feeling prevails there. The prisoners speak in the kindest terms of the superintendents, and I hear no complaints from the other side. The conduct of the prisoners is really edifying.

The produce of the land, under the direction of Mr. Gallagher, is truly wonderful.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

A. CANON COSTIGAN, Roman Catholic Chaplain, Lusk.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

LECTURER'S REPORT.

Lecturer's
Report.

January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—It would be difficult to find an institution more thoroughly reformatory in principle and in practice than the Lusk Intermediate Prison. Though simple in its appearance, it nevertheless stands an enduring testimony of the sound views and wise suggestions of those to whom its origin and development are due.

It does not require any great force of argument to prove that agricultural labour exerts a most salutary influence upon criminals, and tends very much to divert their thoughts and attention from vicious and demoralizing reflections. Again, it prepares them for useful and persevering toil in afterlife, and enables a very large percentage to engage in very remunerative employment in distant lands, where their past errors are unknown.

I cannot speak too highly of the cheering effects which farm-labour has produced even upon the most sluggish criminals, or of its happy results even upon the cool and calculating adept in vice, from whose brow the honest drop of sweat never trickled.

The progress of the farm has been rapid and encouraging. A few years since it was a barren and swampish waste; now it has assumed the appearance of a flourishing and skilfully cultivated farm, reflecting as it does much credit on the zeal and ability of Mr. Gallagher, a most scientific and experienced agriculturist. Nor does the present cheering aspect of the farm speak less for the willing obedience and untiring perseverance of the men who have worked under that gentleman.

Judging from the growing increase of crops both in quantity and quality from year to year, I have no doubt, after the lapse of a little time, the farm will be self-supporting, taking the average daily number of labourers to be fifty throughout the year.

The cheerful and willing manner in which the men apply themselves to the labours of the farm, shows that although they are conscious of their unhappy position, they nevertheless enter upon their work not as mere hirelings, who labour only when in sight.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTER-
DIATE
PRISONS.
—
Lecturer's
Report.

The subjoined return will show how the 170 acres of which the farm consists are laid down:—

	Acres.		Acres.
Meadow, - - -	35	Carrots, - - -	1
Grazing, - - -	81	Vetches, - - -	1
Wheat, - - -	38	Rape, - - -	2
Oats, - - -	28	Vegetable Garden, - - -	1
Potatoes, - - -	24		
Mangolds, - - -	4	Total, - - -	170
Turnips, - - -	4		

The moral tone of the institution is most satisfactory. There is an entire absence of even the slightest tendency to immorality, whether in words or in acts; and should hypocrisy show itself in a *new comers*, it is promptly detected, and as promptly censured by the public opinion of the inmates of the "huts." All must work at Lusk, and the manly emulation they evidence in their respective tasks must be witnessed to be understood. Whilst thus employed the most sceptical must feel that the most indolent criminal can be trained to honest and independent toil, not so much through fear or coercion, as through the influence of hope and encouragement.

From the roadside the men may be seen engaged in the different labours of the farm; and such has been the impression made upon the resident nobility and gentry of the district by the cheerful and willing manner in which they perform their work, and the general good character they have acquired in the vicinity, that the greatest interest is taken in their welfare, and in the success of the system under which they are trained. Indeed, whether we consider the household or external life of the men at Lusk, we have every reason to be satisfied with the simple but efficient management of the institution.

There is nothing in the appearance of this little colony to indicate to the stranger travelling the roads which skirt the farm that he is in the immediate locality where some sixty or seventy criminals of the worst type are situated, free at any moment to pursue their former deeds of violence and vice, and prevented from doing so by moral power alone—a power, when wisely and firmly exercised, is productive of the noblest and most glorious results to man.

Calmly and unostentatiously the good work of criminal amendment proceeds here, and pregnant with the best effects. The public voice, from the poorest peasant in the neighbourhood to the wealthy lord of the soil, whispers, and by times speaks aloud, in the praise of officers and men.

During the winter months all employed upon the farm endure much hardship; nor am I myself exempt from it. They never complain of hardship or hard work, nor do I, for they are essential in overcoming difficulties and dangers in this life, and, in my mind, prepare one for the life beyond the grave better than a constant course of pleasure, ease, and prosperity.

The course of instruction carried out here is identical with that pursued in Smithfield—simple but useful. For my lectures or discourses I select those subjects which strike me as being interesting and instructive to them. When addressing them I speak in words within the range of the capacity of the humblest, taking care I have a word for every man listening to me. They pay the greatest attention to my lectures and counsels, and repose in me the utmost confidence. My great object is to reach the heart, and, as best I can, educate it, as well the mind, implanting as I go along in both, lessons of justice, duty, and honesty. The force, strength, and adherence to the prejudices resulting from ignorance, vicious habits, and bigoted training, I endeavour to remove, and whilst I tell them of God's power and providence, and point out to them the wisdom and

beauty of His works, I never lose an opportunity by which I can impress them with a knowledge of their own base ingratitude for the goodness, mercy, patience, and forbearance of the Great Discerner of Hearts, to whom the secrets of their own are known.

SMITH-
FIELD AND
LUSK
INTERME-
DIATE
PRISONS.

Suspended from the rafters of the hut where we assemble is a model of a square-rigged ship, which affords a very interesting subject for lecture once a week in Smithfield, and in which the men take a lively interest.

Lecturer's
Report.

Life in the school-room is cheerful, interesting, and, under the circumstances, happy. My visits are gladly and anxiously looked forward to, and knowing this, no weather has ever yet prevented me from appearing amongst them, and no matter how wearied I might be coming away from them, I was cheered by the consciousness of having the good wishes and the honest prayers of a class of men with whom my life and my labours are identified.

The task proposed by the intermediate system has been accomplished; Lusk has powerfully contributed to the success. It has been a great training school, within and without the "huts," for men once vicious, depraved, and criminal, but the great majority of whom, thank God, have become honest, industrious, and, I may safely add, loyal subjects.

Before concluding this brief report, I wish to accord to Mr. Gauning the praise he is so honestly entitled to for the kind, conciliating, and impartial manner in which he governs the institution. To Mr. Gallagher I can only say that his zeal, skill, and ability have left their mark upon the Lusk farm, in which he takes so deep an interest.

To Mr. Daly I tender my best thanks for his willing co-operation and untiring attention to the duties assigned him. I also have to thank the other officers for their kindly and respectful feeling to me since we first became officially known to one another.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JAMES P. ORSAN, Lecturer.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

RELEASED
CONVICTS,
DUBLIN
DISTRICT.

RELEASED CONVICTS, DUBLIN DISTRICT.

Inspector's Report. REPORT of the INSPECTOR of RELEASED CONVICTS in the DUBLIN DISTRICT.

January, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my annual report as Inspector of Released Convicts in the Dublin District.

The system of supervision as carried out by me continues to be productive of very cheering results. Doubtless it involves many self-imposed duties, which, if neglected, would detract very much from its usefulness, and diminish in a great measure the moral influence, absolutely necessary, that I should possess, not alone over the men under my immediate surveillance, but indispensably necessary over those with whom my legal connexion has ceased, and which to them, as well as maintaining the efficiency of the system, has been productive of very beneficial results.

To be at all times in a position to tell where a released convict resides, as well as the mode of his living, is no doubt useful in itself; but were this all that was to be done, many a man now working honestly for his livelihood would, long since, have been convicted of some petty larceny or theft, committed through poverty or want of employment arising from circumstances which he could not prevent.

The workhouse of course is open to them, where they can obtain relief in time of need, but only those who have been brought up in poorhouses, and the blind, maimed, and infirm sick, shelter in these places, all others entertain the strongest, and indeed immovable objection to enter these establishments.

The peculiarities of the character and condition of released convicts demand very grave consideration if we make their amendment an object of interest. No class of men requires an assisting hand to aid them in their honest efforts to redeem the character they have lost by their past indolence and vice more than they. To such I have endeavoured, with God's help, to act a friend and a guide for the past ten years. But on the other hand, with those who evidenced symptoms of a return to their old criminal ways, I allow no sympathy for the prisoner or his condition to interfere with the duty I owe the community. I first warn the man whom I suspect and reason with him as to the consequence of the vicious course which I think he is about to pursue, telling him at the same time frankly but firmly my determination to bring him to justice in the event of his relapse. All suspicious cases you are aware, gentlemen, are immediately brought under your notice to deal with as you may deem fit. The police authorities and myself co-operate in the kindest manner, and the mutual assistance we render to one another contributes very much to the repression of crime in the Dublin district. The Governor of the Richmond Bridewell and also the Governor of the County Gaol will bear their testimony to my anxiety at all times to identify any man committed for any offence to either of these prisons when supposed to have been a convict previously. They will also tell you, gentlemen, how very few of the men I have trained trouble them with their visits; but when they do they are promptly identified and their whole history revealed. I cannot omit to mention here how grateful I feel to these gentlemen for their kind and courteous co-operation at all times when my official duties brought me in contact with them.

It will be seen by what is here stated that the system of supervision as carried on by me is fair, just, and impartial. The public and the prisoner alike benefit by it. The well-disposed of my men feel they have in me their kindest friend on earth, and the evil-inclined are conscious of their incompetency to pursue a course of crime in my district with impunity. I anticipate relapses with a great degree of certainty, and am therefore prepared to take immediate steps at the proper time. The duties of my office admit of little physical rest and of less mental repose, but what of this if my fellow-man derives any advantage or benefit from my humble labours. One thing is certain, at all events, that crime is fast disappearing in Dublin, and old and habitual thieves are becoming honest and industrious citizens, and homes that hitherto have been the scenes of vice and poverty are now replaced by those of morality and plenty.

I now come, gentlemen, to speak of a conspiracy which threatened to disturb the peace of Ireland for some time and which has, I regret to say, marred her prosperity and trade for many years to come. No man holding the very critical position which I do could be free from the troubles of fear whilst the evil spirit of Fenianism was brooding over the great majority of the working classes of our city, and when in that city, and amongst the classes I mention, some hundreds of my men were assembled. I know, gentlemen, you have endured hardships trying and severe, in your anxiety and vigilance to hold safe the misguided men committed to your charge inside the prison of Mountjoy; but whilst you were so engaged I was not sleeping at the helm outside. That I was not is proved by the fact that not one man who ever passed through the Intermediate Prisons was charged with Fenianism. I have seen every man arrested for this conspiracy, and therefore can speak with the weight of personal experience. The loyalty of my men was tested and proved not wanting; they knew my character was at stake, and they could not forget that in the humble hut at Smithfield in times gone by great and good men, even royalty itself, assembled to evidence the strong interest they felt in their reformation.

The number of relapses in my district during the past year amounts to one; revocations for intemperance, three; changing their residences without giving proper notice, one. Employers continue to repose confidence in my men and the demand for them during the past year has at times exceeded the supply.

With the English convicts placed under my supervision I act just as I do with my own men. I help them along in the same manner; indeed they are very grateful to me and conduct themselves very satisfactorily.

On the whole we have every reason to be thankful to Providence for the continuous and unbroken success of the intermediate system, and grateful to Him for the many spiritual and temporal blessings He has through that system been pleased to confer upon the poor and the friendless, the out-cast and the abandoned.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

J. P. ORGAN.

RELEASED
CONVICTS,
DUBLIN
DISTRICT.
—
Inspector's
Report.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

RETURN made by the INSPECTOR of the District of the City and County of Dublin, of the NUMBER of LICENSE-HOLDERS REGISTERED by the INSPECTOR of the said District, under the provisions of the Penal Servitude Act, 1864, from the date at which the Act came into operation, until the 25th day of July, 1865, inclusive, being for the period of one year.

	Males.	Females.	Remarks.
No. Discharged on Licence within the District.	183	*	From the year 1856 I have carried out a system of supervision, and of the results of that system I cannot speak too favourably. State, society, and convict have been benefited by it. The mere supervision of released convicts is of only secondary importance; assistance and counsel are, in my opinion, of greater moment.
No. notified by Police of other Districts as having removed into the District.	27	*	
Total, ...	210	*	
No. who have removed out of the District:—			The Penal Servitude Act of 1854 has effected no alteration in the Dublin District, beyond my position as Inspector of Released Convicts, being officially recognised.
With notice.			
Emigrated or gone to sea, . . .	77	*	
Removed into other Districts, . .	110	*	
Without notice.			
Emigrated or gone to sea, . . .	—	*	
Removed into other Districts, . .	1	—	
No. remaining in the District, . . .	23	—	With regard to the chances of discharged prisoners procuring employment, I may observe, that if they can obtain employment through any other agency besides that of prison officials or patronage societies, so much the better for themselves; if not, they should be assisted to do so prudently and without any excessive philanthropy.
Total, ...	210	*	
No. who have been apprehended by the Police:—			
For crimes or misdemeanours, . .	—	*	JAMES P. O'DON.
For not reporting themselves to the Police, ...	—	*	
For breach of condition of Licence, and on revocation, ...	3	*	
No. not apprehended, ...	207	*	
Total, ...	210	*	
No. who have died, ...	—	*	
No. who have failed to report themselves, and cannot be found by the Police, ...	—	*	
No. whose sentences have expired:—			
Who have complied with the law as to reporting themselves, ...	108	*	
Who have not complied with the law as to reporting themselves, ...	1	*	
No. whose sentences have not expired:—			
Who continue to report themselves to the Police, ...	—	*	
Who report themselves to the Prisoners' Aid Society, or otherwise, ...	—	*	
Who are under the care of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, or other society or person having a like object; who reported themselves to the Police on their liberation, and who would be liable to do so previous to leaving or returning to the District, ...	108	*	
Total, ...	210	*	

* In Ireland the majority of female convicts are discharged on licence into refuges in Dublin; those not so discharged being generally retained till the completion of their sentence.

RETURN showing the PROPORTION of SICK and DEATHS to the APPENDIX.

Number of Prisoners in the Irish Convict Prisons for the years
1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, and 1859.

	1854.						1855.					
	Spital Island and Phillipstown.	Cork and Grange- gorman.	Wexford and Smithfield.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1854.		Spital Island and Phillipstown.	Cork and Grange- gorman.	Wexford and Smithfield.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1855.	
No. of Prisoners, .	2,200	339	553	443	3,535		1,777	433	430	492	3,142	
Average daily No. of Sick, .	276	25	46	21	368		203	36	65	17	321	
No. of Deaths, .	241	6	33	9	289		101	8	31	9	149	
Per-centage on pri- son population, .	10.5	1.6	5.9	2.	8.		5.7	1.6	7.2	2.	4.7	
	1856.						1857.					
	Spital Island and Phillipstown.	Cork and Grange- gorman.	Wexford and Smithfield.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1856.		Spital Island and Phillipstown.	Cork, Grange- gorman, and Wexford.	Smithfield and Leck.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1857.	
No. of Prisoners, .	1,619	613	109	421	2,862		1,329	686	70	357	2,442	
Average daily No. of Sick, .	101	42	35	16	194		67	37	6	16	126	
No. of Deaths, .	35	11	5	3	54		34	6	2	3	45	
Per-centage on pri- son population, .	2.1	1.6	2.5	.7	1.9		2.6	.8	2.8	.8	1.8	
	1858.					Totals, 1858.	1859.					Totals, 1859.
	Spital Island and Phillipstown.	Female Prison.	Smithfield and Leck.	Mountjoy Male.			Spital Island and Phillipstown.	Mountjoy Female.	Smithfield and Leck.	Mountjoy Male.		
No. of Prisoners, .	1,003	533	97	330	2,813		837	464	99	293	1,693	
Average daily No. of Sick, .	41	41	4	12	98		82	14	3	13	112	
No. of Deaths, .	16	12	3	5	36		11	3	—	1	15	
Per-centage on pri- son population, .	1.6	2.	3.6	0.9	1.6		1.3	0.6	—	0.6	0.9	

APPENDIX. RETURN showing the PROPORTION of SICK and DEATHS to the Number of Prisoners in the Irish Convict Prisons for the years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865.

	1860.					1861.				
	Spike Island and Philpottown.	Mountjoy Female.	Swinfild and Lock.	Mountjoy Male.	Total, 1860.	Spike Island and Philpottown.	Mountjoy Female.	Swinfild and Lock.	Mountjoy Male.	Total, 1861.
No. of Prisoners, .	703	423	105	251	1,582	676	394	94	205	1,369
Average daily No. of Sick, .	22	17	4	11	54	15	20	4	11	30
No. of Deaths, .	3	11	—	1	15	1	8	1	3	11
Per-centage on prison population, .	3	2.6	—	.4	.96	.1	1.5	1.1	1.5	.83
	1862.					1863.				
	Spike Island and Philpottown.*	Mountjoy Female.	Swinfild and Lock.	Mountjoy Male.	Total, 1862.	Spike Island.	Mountjoy Female.	Swinfild and Lock.	Mountjoy Male.	Total, 1863.
No. of Prisoners, .	700	416	79	316	1,510	783	460	75	570	1,688
Average daily No. of Sick, .	14	27	4	17	62	9	26	4	17	56
No. of Deaths, .	8	10	—	5	23	10	4	—	5	19
Per-centage on prison population, .	1.1	2.4	—	1.5	1.5	1.2	.8	—	1.3	1.1
	1864.					1865.				
	Spike Island.	Mountjoy Female.	Swinfild and Lock.	Mountjoy Male.	Total, 1864.	Spike Island.	Mountjoy Female.	Swinfild and Lock.	Mountjoy Male.	Total, 1865.
No. of Prisoners, .	918	489	99	200	1,706	961	486	105	221	1,773
Average daily No. of Sick, .	8	30	8	16	62	8	20	5	10	60
No. of Deaths, .	7	18	2	10	37	10	10	2	3	25
Per-centage on prison population, .	.7	2.6	2.0	3.4	1.7	1.1	2	1.9	.9	1.4

* Philpottown Prison was closed on the 31st March, 1862.